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62-27
Men, Women and
Children

Will H. Tracy &
1913

29th
YEAR

WANTED

To Plant
GOOD SEEDS

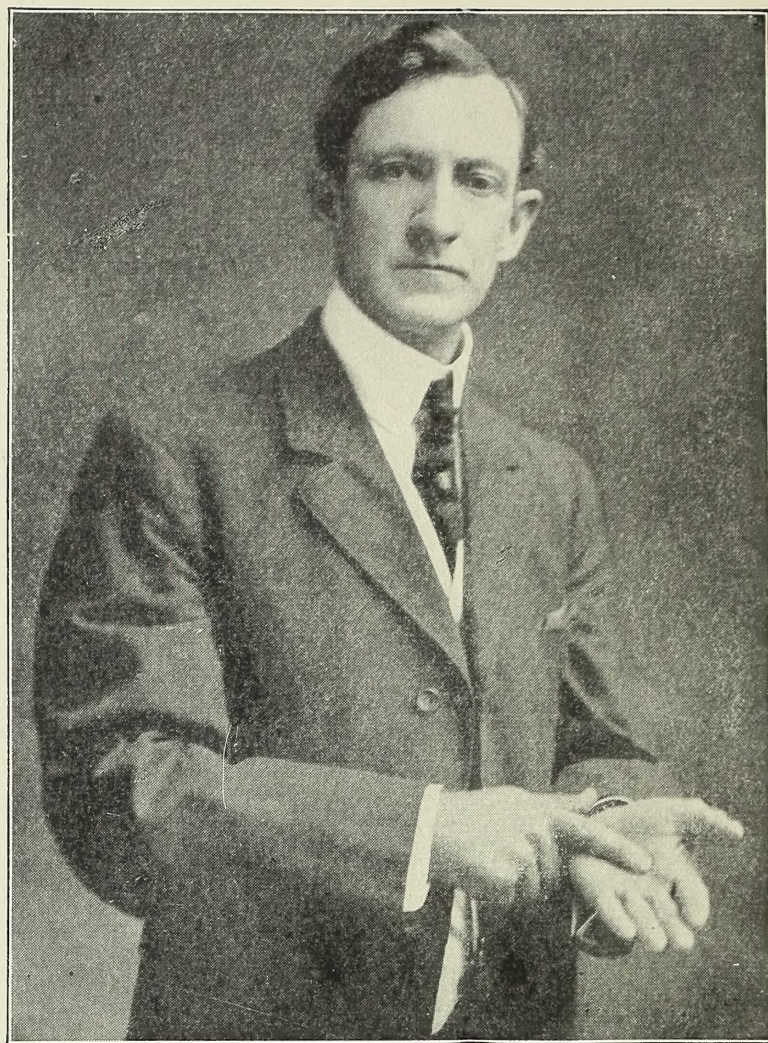


"DIAMOND JOE'S"
BIG WHITE CORN

RATEKIN'S SEED HOUSE

SHENANDOAH, IOWA.

LARGEST SEED HOUSE IN THE WEST AND
LARGEST SEED CORN GROWERS IN THE WORLD.



TO OUR PATRONS AND FRIENDS, GREETINGS!

IN PRESENTING THIS OUR TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL FARM AND GARDEN SEED CATALOGUE to farmers, gardeners and truck growers, for 1913, I wish to tender my sincere thanks and acknowledgments to all those who, through their orders, have given practical support to my business, and also to the many, whose words of appreciation have encouraged me in my endeavor to live close to the views expressed in the first catalogue I ever issued. "I believe that the purchase of a package of seeds, however small, involves a trust to which seedsmen should honorably respond," By adhering to this policy our trade has not only increased from year to year but has multiplied over and over. Last year, 1912, our business struck it's highest mark, and great it was! Orders poured in upon us by the thousand and tens' of thousands and no seed firm on earth ever had more cause to feel thankful to its tens' of thousands of patrons than we. The reason is this. Each and every one of our patrons is our friend, not only in name, but in truth. This we experienced the past summer and fall in it's fullest measure when we were called on business trips to the Pacific states; to the South, Texas, Oklahoma, Ia., Miss., Alabama and Georgia and from there to Philadelphia and New York and back through the middle western states. Everywhere we went on our travels without exception, we were cordially greeted,—heartily by our kind patrons, and words often failed us to express our keen appreciation. No matter where we went or where we stopped we found patrons of the Ratekin Seed House, and everywhere we found a patron we found a wholesouled friend. Often, very often, we heard expressions like this: "How are you Mr. Ratekin. I want you to come to my house, plantation, farm or ranch and see what a wonderful crop of corn, oats or vegetables we have grown from the seeds we got from you. My wife will get up a good dinner and will be pleased to show you her garden and flowers raised from the seeds we sent to you for."

IT IS EASY TO ORDER YOUR SEEDS FROM US.

NOTHING could be made easier, more simple or more profitable than we have made it to our customers to order their seeds from us. You are just as safe in ordering your seeds from this catalogue as if you were to walk into our seed house or any other place where seeds are kept for sale and select out the seeds you wanted. All you need to do is to read the next page of this book and follow out the suggestions there made, or write us in your own way and language. We receive letters written in all languages, and have employes' who can read every language known, and from people of every walk in life. As a matter of fact the chief and only art of letter writing is to briefly express yourself in your own way and your own language sufficiently to let us know what you want. That's the whole secret and all there is to it. The most finished literary production conveys or tells no more.

YOU ARE TAKING NO CHANCES in ordering your Seeds from the RATEKIN'S SEED HOUSE.

A GUARANTEE THAT MEANS SOMETHING: We guarantee that every article purchased from this catalogue shall be exactly as represented and all orders and shipments are made with the distinct understanding and agreement that purchaser is to have the privilege of examination and anything not found as represented or entirely satisfactory shall be returned to us at our expense, when order will be duplicated or purchase price refunded, at option of purchaser. We, however, in no case give any warranty, express or implied as to description, purity or productiveness of any seeds sold or sent out by us and will in no way be responsible for resultant crops after seeds have been planted or sown as there is so many conditions with which we have nothing to do, involved, after seeds are planted. If purchaser does not accept seeds on these conditions they must be returned to us within ten days from time received. This gives ample time for inspecting, trying and testing in any way purchaser may desire, but we cannot return money or duplicate order for any seeds that have been held in hands of purchaser longer than ten days from time received. We make every effort to fill orders same or following day received, but if you wish us to hold order in our seed house until planting time, kindly advise us to that effect. Receipt of all orders acknowledged by first mail.

Truly and sincerely yours,

J. M. Ratekin
Manager.

ESTABLISHED 1884.

Shipped by

Every Order, Large or Small, Will Receive
Careful Attention.

Order Sheets for Seeds

RATEKIN'S SEED HOUSE, Shenandoah, Iowa

Dated this _____ day of _____ 191_____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED		
	DOLLARS	CTS.
P. O. Order.....		
Express Order.....		
Bank Draft.....		
Check		
Cash		
Postage Stamps		
Total		

We PREPAY THE POSTAGE on all Flower and Vegetable Seeds, by the packet, ounce, pound, pint and quart; and when ordering by freight or in connection with field or heavy seeds at your expense you should deduct at the rate of 8 cents per pound from catalogue prices.

[illegible]

Terms and General Information About Ordering

I Want You to Have Confidence in Our Way of Doing Business.



PLEASE READ CAREFULLY BEFORE SENDING
IN YOUR ORDER.



OUR TERMS ARE STRICTLY CASH WITH ORDER.

We send nothing C. O. D. Every item entering into the Seed Business is spot cash. Cash buys the best of everything. When cost of seed, postage and other necessary expense is paid good, high-grade seeds are sold on a very small margin. It is not big profits on a single order, but the large volume of business we do that enables us to make you bargain prices and give you the most for your money.

OUR RESPONSIBILITY.

As this book will probably go into the hands of hundreds and thousands of people who are unacquainted with us this question will naturally arise, and in answer to the same we take pleasure in referring you to the Shenandoah National Bank, The Security Trust and Savings Bank, the Mayor, Postmaster, Adams or Wells-Fargo Express Agents, or any business house or any other person whatsoever in this city.

WHAT WE GUARANTEE.

That all money sent to us for seeds shall reach us if sent us by registered letter, postoffice or express money order, or bank draft made payable to our order, or your personal check, if you have the money back of it to make it good. That your orders will be filled promptly and with care. Keep a copy of your order. Sometimes people think they have ordered articles which they have omitted, and blame us for not sending them. Please be careful to sign your name, postoffice, state and rural route plainly.

ABOUT WARRANTING.

We thoroughly test all our seeds and nothing is sent out which we do not believe to be of good, strong germination and that will grow good under any reasonable conditions; still crops are contingent upon so many conditions, etc., over which we have no control, including soil, weather, time and manner of planting, cultivation, etc., that we cannot be responsible for the product and give no warranty, expressed or implied, as to description, quality, quantity or productiveness of any seed sent out by us, and every order for seeds named in this catalog will be executed on these conditions only, and if the purchaser does not accept the seeds on these terms and conditions they are to be returned within ten days from the time received. This gives ample time for inspection and testing as to vitality. It, however, must be plain to everyone who gives the matter the slightest thought that it is to our best interest to send out only such seed stock as will not only grow, but prove true to name and description.

WHAT WE PREPAY POSTAGE ON.

We pay postage or express charges on all vegetable, flower and other seeds quoted by packet, ounce or pound; one-half pint, pint and quart, and guarantee safe delivery at any postoffice in the United States. If such seeds, however, are to be sent inside of a sack of heavy field seeds to go by express or freight at expense of purchaser, you may deduct at the rate of 8 cents per pound from regular catalog price for any vegetable or flower seeds contained in the order.

CHARGES NOT PREPAID.

All seeds sold by peck or bushel or other than pound prices, including Farm, Field and Grass Seeds, etc., are sent by freight or express, as may be directed, at purchaser's expense. Boxes and bags free with all shipments of Seed Corn, Oats, Barley, Speltz and other grain. But sacks for grass seeds add 20 cents extra for each bag. Ear corn, 70 lbs. per bushel; shelled corn, 56 lbs. per bushel.

DELIVERY.

The point of delivery of all heavy goods is on cars at Shenandoah. When we quote a delivered price at your station it means we prepay the freight or express charges.

PREPAID STATIONS.

Many of our customers live at points known as prepaid stations, where there is no agent. In such cases you should always send money enough to prepay freight charges through to such points, otherwise we will ship to nearest station where there is an agent.

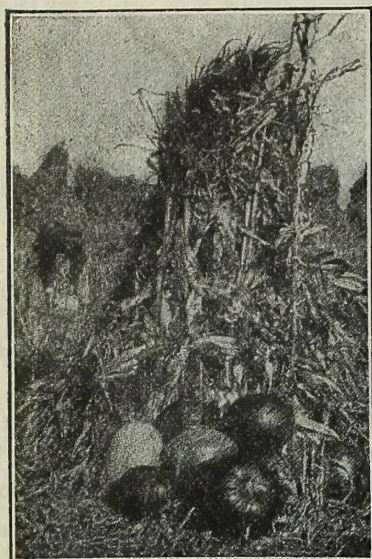
SMALL ORDERS.

It matters not what you want in the seed line, nor how large or small your order, even only one packet, we shall be glad to hear from you, and it will have our prompt and best attention, and we will otherwise try to serve you in a manner that will please you.

MARKET GARDENERS

and others who buy vegetable and flower seeds in bulk to amount of \$5.00 or over are requested to make out a list of their wants and requirements and send them in when we will make them our lowest special prices in large orders. In short, we want to hear from everyone who receives this book, and you may always depend upon receiving the most courteous treatment.

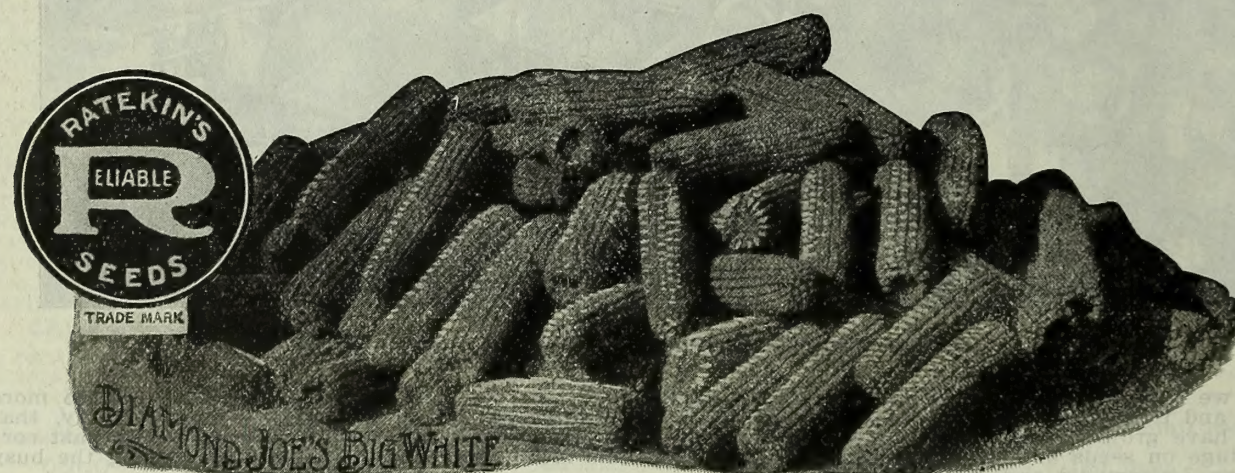
CORN---Its Importance and Value to the American Farmer



The Great Importance of the corn crop of the United States is shown by the fact that of 176,000,000 acres devoted to all kinds of grains grown 94,000,000 acres, or more than 53 per cent of all, is and has been for a number of years devoted to corn alone, the value of which averaged on a five years' stretch \$1,116,000,000, about two times the annual value of the cotton crop, and twice as much as the wheat crop of this country during the same period, which were next in their order to the corn crop. Thus it will be observed that corn is the leading crop of the United States, and I might here add that three-fourths of all the corn grown in the world is produced in this country. Yet it is a humiliating fact that with proper conditions and cultivation the same number of acres could be easily made to produce twice as many bushels as are now being obtained, and I believe you will agree with me when I tell you the average yield per acre during the years I speak of was but 24.09, and when we consider that many hundreds and thousands of farmers grow an average of fifty to ninety bushels per acre, and in some isolated instances grow from 100 to 200 bushels per acre it stands to reason that there is very much of the corn crop that falls largely below the average.

Doubling The Yield Per Acre is the problem we are all up against. We have now made the growing, breeding and selling of seed corn a specialty for twenty-nine years, during which time we have experimented in every known scientific way in improvement and perfecting the varieties we first started with. Meantime we have originated and propagated some of the best new varieties that have ever been introduced, de-

scriptions of which will be found on the following pages, and we ask that you read them over carefully. Some varieties of corn may be and are especially adapted to one locality, while they are wholly unfit for another place, where seasons, climate, soil and altitudes are entirely different. In our experience, without boasting or blowing, as some so-called seedsmen do, we feel it is a safe and conservative statement to say we have handled and

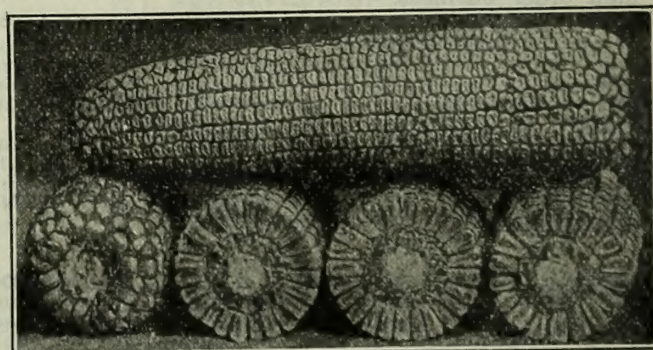


sold more seed corn each year than any other growers in the United States, sending our seed, both wholesale and retail, to every state in the Union where corn is grown at all, and by reason of this we have obtained the experience of more—much more than a hundred thousand farmers and planters who have planted their crops from our seed. In this way and from the actual practical experience of these farmers

and corn growers we are often able to materially assist our customers in their selections of varieties best suited to their conditions and requirements, and are more than glad to do so when you are in any way in doubt, if you will write us. **GOOD SEED CORN** may and is not "all it" in obtaining big yields, but without **GOOD SEED AND GOOD VARIETIES** to start with you cannot expect to or obtain the fruits of your time, effort and labor.

Good Seed Corn

THOROUGHbred HIGH YIELDING VARIETIES CANNOT BE BRED UP AND PRODUCED IN ONE YEAR. It requires time, practical knowledge and experience. A step year by year. "SLOW BUT SURE," but when you order your seed from us you get the benefit of our twenty-nine years' experience of breeding seed corn. **WE ARE THE OLDEST AND LARGEST SEED CORN GROWERS IN THE WORLD.** Ratekin's "famous" Iowa grown seed corn is known and planted from the Atlantic to the Pacific and from the Gulf to Canada. **WE BEGUN THE SEED BUSINESS TO STAY.** Others have tried to imitate us, but many of them have come and gone. **WE ARE still HERE,** but could not stay if our seed and representations did not bear us out in our claims. **"SATISFACTION GUARANTEED OR MONEY BACK"** is our motto.



The seeds I bought of you last spring were up to the Ratekin standard, all O. K. in every respect, but the best of all was the "Nameless" tomato. It is the one thing I have raised that fills the name prolific. It is the earliest tomato I ever saw. The meat is firm and sweet and there is no end to its bearing until killed by the frost. Seed that were sown April 1st were ready to transplant by May 1st, good strong healthy plants. After being transplanted they grew right off from the start and by June 20th tomatoes were full grown on the vines and turning ripe. By July 1st they were doing their best and will I presume until killed by the frost. Such clusters of tomatoes as grew on the vines were a sight to behold. As many as fourteen tomatoes in a cluster on a twig of a vine was a common count. The vines, too, were strong and sturdy and free from suckers. As a name I would suggest "Nonpareil" or rather "Ratekin's Nonpareil," as I think it the most fitting, for as to my own observations I have never saw an equal to it in every respect, such as hardness, earliness, good quality and tendency to bear. With best wishes for your continued success, I am very truly yours,

A. BURT HULAN.

Cedar Valley, Taney County, Mo., Oct. 6th, 1912.

What is Good Seed Corn? Method of Selecting and Handling



Illustration of How Our Seed Corn is Prepared Before Shelling.

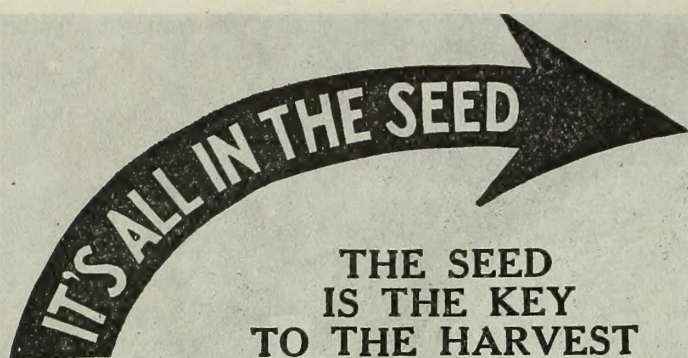
To Be First Class Seed Corn it should be a standard variety of superior quality in yield—early and sound maturity—corn that has demonstrated its ability to outyield other strains of the same variety. It should show a high per cent of germination, thus insuring an even and perfect stand. It should be purchased from a practical and scientific corn breeder, one who possesses a knowledge and experience in the growing and judging, as well as the preparation of seed in all its details.

Selecting Seed Corn. For a number of years farmers have been advised to go through their cornfields before gathering time and select the best ears for seed. In this way and by this process you will doubtless select corn that will grow if properly handled, but I do not believe this method will result in much, if any improvement, unless the non-productive stalks are cut out before the pollen is distributed. If these inferior, non-productive stalks fertilize the stalks which produce the large ears, much improvement is impossible. In my own case in planting my seed stock for all we grow on our own farms and to supply our contract growers, I plant in plots, in hills 3 feet 8 inches apart each way, or in drills, rows same distance apart, one kernel every twelve inches in the row. I give good cultivation—best I know how, and when the tassel emerges from the stalks, and before pollen is shed, I cut out every stalk that does not show one or two good “shoots” on it. A few years of this kind of selection will result greatly, more in the increased yield than going through the field and making ear selections. For each seed patch of corn I select ground as far away from other corn as possible, as the pollen is often carried quite a distance, causing different varieties to mix.

How Our Seed Corn Is Handled. Naturally every farmer or customer who sends away for seed wants to know how our seed corn and crops are handled after it is grown and garnered. This is an important question.

First of all, our crops are allowed to remain in the field on the stalk as long as weather conditions will admit, in order that the ears may have the full benefit of nature's process of drying, which is the best method for curing corn that has ever been devised. But when the time comes to get it in everything else is made secondary to that end, and every bushel husked each day goes into our corn house before we sleep. As fast as it comes in it is shoveled into slat bottom bunks, built especially for this purpose, so that every ear can be observed, and, here we have a small army of men, experts in the business, to go over it, sorting it out ear by ear, selecting only the well-developed and best matured ears, which is conveyed to our regular repositories. The refuse, culls, shelled corn, silks and husks stripped from the select ears is cleaned up, shelled and sold on the market. Thus we are able to economize space and all our storage room for choice ears only. Ordinarily we reserve from 15 to 25 per cent of the first sorting. But when the time comes for shelling and shipping out, usually commencing about January 1st, as we supply many of the leading seed houses and seedsmen of the country with their seed, **WE AGAIN GO OVER EACH AND EVERY EAR THE SECOND TIME, RIGIDLY INSPECTING EACH AS TO VITALITY, THE BUTT AND TIP ENDS BEING TAKEN OFF BEFORE SHELLING** for shipment. Meantime our seed corn, before the second inspection and resorting, is kept in thorough ventilated houses, ventilated at the bottom, from sides to end. To do the cleaning and grading we have machinery specially built for this purpose, and when we say we have the best and most complete equipment that money will buy or to be found in any seed house in America we believe we are not overstating the facts. After shelling all grain and seeds pass over a cleaner, where it is cleaned and fanned. Then it is conveyed to our new process cleaner and grader, which makes five different separations—extra large kernels, small undersized, extra thick and extra thin, and, fifth, the graded seed corn, similar to illustration, shown on next page. We have been told a thousand times that the way we clean and grade our Seed Corn, Wheat, Oats, Barley and Grass Seeds make it alone worth twice as much as the same quality of seeds cleaned on ordinary mills. **OUR AMBITION IS TO SEND OUT NOTHING BUT WHAT WILL GROW AND OF THE HIGHEST GRADE AND QUALITY.**

Thoroughbred Select Seed Corn



TWENTY-NINE YEARS HAVE COME AND GONE SINCE WE FIRST MADE ANNOUNCEMENT and begun the breeding and growing of thoroughbred high yielding SEED CORN as a business. Years before, however, as a practical farmer and corn grower we learned there was as much, even ten times more profit for the time and money invested and spent in the selection of thoroughbred seed corn as there was in selecting a herd of horses, cattle or hogs to start from, besides the returns are immediate from your corn crop, while it takes two, three or four years' time, care and patience before returns begin to come back from your thoroughbred herd, and even then in a comparatively small way as measured by your annually increased yield of corn from your broad acres.

We feel it not improper at this time in this our twenty-ninth annual catalogue, to present a summary of what we have accomplished along the line of corn breeding and corn improvement during these twenty-nine years. To do this we believe illustrations from real photographs and bona fide statements from a few only of the thousands of farmers who have been planting their crops from our seed corn for the past five, ten, twenty and twenty-five years will better tell the story than any words spoken by us. Hence we will use as many of these illustrations and testimonials as space will admit. **THEY TELL THEIR OWN STORY IN THEIR OWN WAY.**

YOU CAN'T GO WRONG BY PLANTING OUR HIGH BRED TESTED SEED CORN.

We realize that by far the most important question that comes before the farmer each year is his seed corn. It has always been our aim and purpose to help and aid him in this particular matter. It is indeed very gratifying to know that we have succeeded, as is shown by thousands and tens of thousands of letters we receive annually, coming from every state in the Union where corn is grown, all bearing evidence to this effect. Located as we are in the best corn and seed corn growing district to be found under the shining sun we have spared no effort to grow only the most valuable and prolific varieties—varieties not only adapted to the requirements of the farmer, but different varieties best adapted to the latitude intended for planting, and as stated in the preceding page, if after reading the descriptions of different varieties you are in doubt write us and we will gladly help you with any information we can give you. **WE GROW AND SELL MORE SEED CORN THAN ANY TEN SEED CORN GROWERS or SEED HOUSES COMBINED IN IOWA,** and at the end of every season send out many thousand inquiries among our customers in different states who have planted different varieties under varied conditions, thus obtaining the experience of thousands of farmers, all of which is at the command of our customers when we can be of service to them.

The United States Department of Agriculture says, in a recently issued year-book, that properly grown, selected seed corn, well bred, usually produces fifteen bushels more per acre than ordinary unselected corn. This statement is based on tests carried on on a large scale, covering many years.

PROF. P. G. HOLDEN of the **IOWA STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE** at Ames, Iowa, says: "I went to the corn fields of one hundred farmers in Storey County, Iowa, where the farmers were in their fields planting corn, and took a quantity of seed corn, such as they were planting, from one hundred different corn planter boxes, and took it to the grounds of the State Experimental Station of the Iowa Agricultural College, and planted it on our trial fields. Some of it made **ONLY TWENTY BUSHELS, WHILE OTHER LOTS YIELDED ALMOST ONE HUNDRED BUSHELS PER ACRE.** This wide difference **WAS ALL IN THE SEED AND VARIETIES.** The land and cultivation and other methods all being identically alike. The expense of growing was the same. The **BEST SEED AND VARIETIES** produced fully **FOUR TIMES AS MUCH CORN** of better quality than did the other lots of **INFERIOR SEED.**"

The actual cost of good pure bred seeds is the smallest item of expense in the growing and production of the crop, and when results are known the cost of good seeds are an asset rather than an expense. Especially is this so when applied to seed corn. It isn't what a thing costs; it is what it returns to the purchaser. It has been proven and demonstrated by thousands of our customers all over the United States wherever corn is grown that results are the same—that our pure high bred varieties of seed grows crops that outyield ordinary sorts of corn from ten to forty bushels per acre, and in some instances even more than the latter figure.

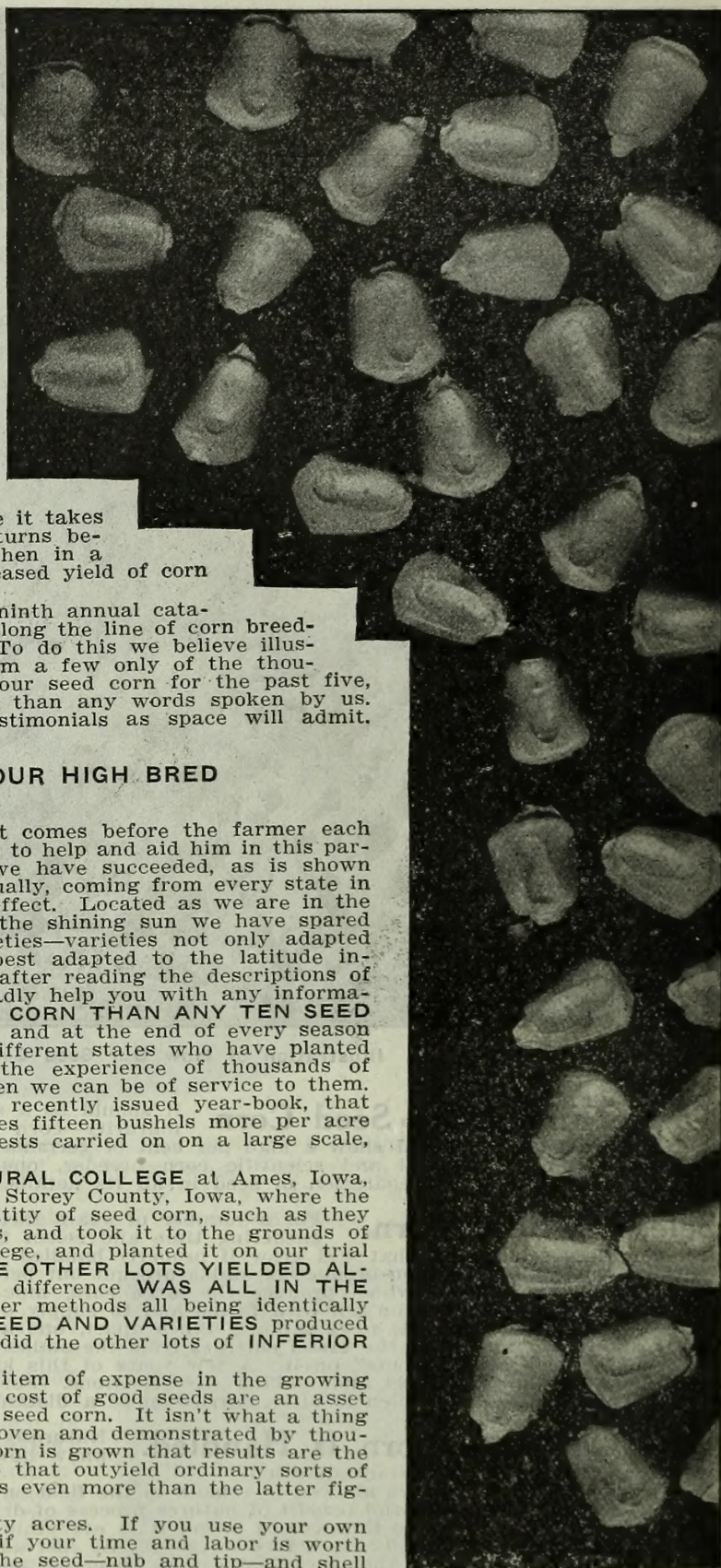
It requires about six bushels of seed corn to plant forty acres. If you use your own seed it is worth market price, say 50 cents per bushel, and if your time and labor is worth anything it is worth 25 to 50 cents per bushel to pick out the seed—nub and tip—and shell ready for planting. Thus your seed will probably cost you \$6.00.

Now, if you send to us your seed will cost you from \$2.00 to \$3.00 per bushel. Say it costs you \$2.00 per bushel. That makes the cost of your seed to plant forty acres of corn \$12.00, just six dollars more than if you plant your own corn. Should you obtain but one bushel increased yield per acre it would make forty bushels. At 50 cents per bushel it would amount to \$20.00. If you obtain an increased yield of say fifteen bushels per acre, and this is no overdrawn estimate, it would amount to six hundred bushels. At 50 cents per bushel would amount to \$300.00. This estimate being conservative it is a very strong argument in favor of planting only pure, high-bred seed.

REMEMBER—In Counting the Cost of Seed Corn

One bushel of corn will plant seven to eight acres! The cost per acre for our pure bred varieties is but 25 to 40 cents per acre! Only one bushel per acre increased yield more than pays all cost of seed. The commonest mongrel scrub corn costs you something. The corn we grow and sell you is not only selected seed, but is pure bred and has been carefully handled, dried and cured as seed corn should be.

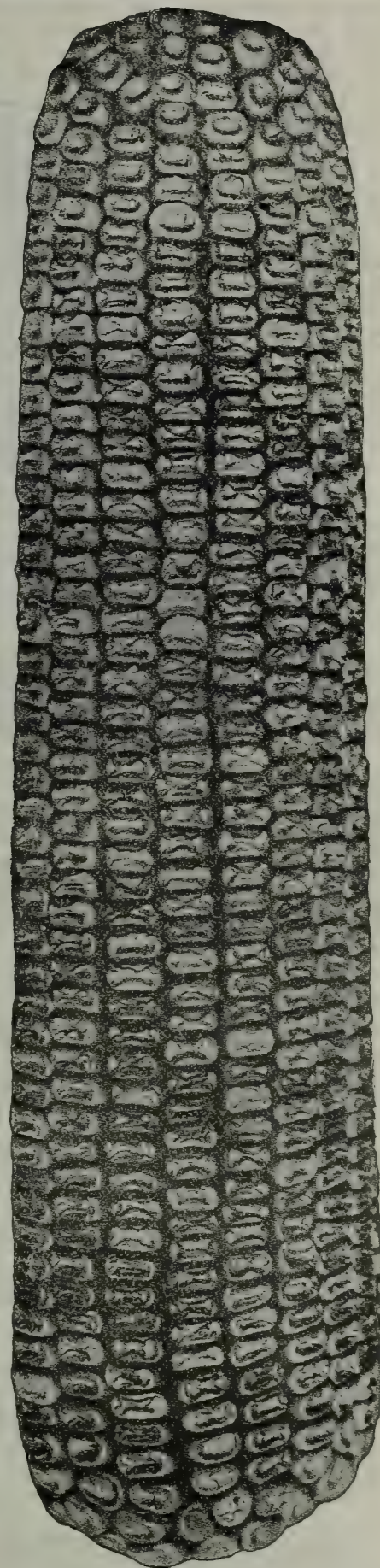
A bushel of seed corn that increases your yield ten bushels per acre makes you at the rate \$40.00 per bushel. Hence don't forget that if you plant seed that lowers your yield this much it has cost you \$40.00 per bushel.



Ratekin's Mammoth Iowa Yellow Dent



**RATEKIN'S
MAMMOTH
IOWA
YELLOW DENT
THE BEST
ALL AROUND
BIG EARLY
YELLOW DENT
CORN
IN THE
WORLD.**



FAMOUS FOR ITS UNIFORM LARGE EARS, HIGH YIELDING, PRIZE WINNING QUALITIES; ALSO ITS EARLY MATURITY. This new introduction, catalogued by us for the first time last year, jumped into fame more quickly and rapidly than any new variety we have ever before introduced.

ITS HISTORY: For years, ever since we developed and brought out "Diamond Joe's Big White," the big eared early maturing white corn that has now gained a wide world fame, we have been experimenting, crossing, hybridizing and breeding from many varieties and strains of yellow corn, in order to obtain a **LARGE EARED EARLY MATURING YELLOW CORN**, something that would match up with our Diamond Joe's Big White, which we originated and first introduced in 1906. Ever since the introduction of that corn we have had a stream of inquiries and a demand for a yellow corn of similar characteristics that equaled it. During all this time we were busy trying out various combinations and varieties, although found some a failure, some fair and some reasonably good, but in **RATEKIN'S MAMMOTH YELLOW DENT**, the name we gave this variety, we found an exceptional or ideal variety, just such as we were aiming at. We have, however, always been conservatively cautious about giving our endorsement or recommending any new variety until thoroughly tried out, and until we were absolutely sure it was and would prove all we claimed for it. Prior to cataloguing this corn for the first time, last year, we sent out trial packages, gratuitously, to many hundreds of our customers all over the country, and from practically every report was not only flattering, but was exuberant in extolling the high yielding and early maturing qualities of this new variety of corn. Therefore we catalogued this corn last year, 1912, for the first time, but having only a limited supply of it, it was all taken so quickly we hardly knew we had any. This past season we planted very liberally of it, and hope to be abundantly able to supply the demand this year. At this time, December 1st, we have reports from fully 50 per cent of our customers who planted of it the past season, and all report the most satisfactory results, and **WE ARE PLEASED TO GIVE OUR ENDORSEMENT TO IT** as being all we claim for it—one of **THE BEST ALL ROUND VARIETIES OF YELLOW DENT CORN** for general field crop, for market, feeding and ensilage purposes ever before offered or introduced to the American farmer.

Ratekin's Mammoth Iowa Yellow Dent.

DESCRIPTION: In Ratekin's Mammoth Iowa Yellow Dent our customers will find a high-bred, pure variety of a beautiful golden yellow corn, and one that will please you. Contains 16 to 20 rows on the cob, deep and solidly set; makes the finest appearance when shelled, but equally beautiful in the ear. It grows a strong, rank, rugged

Ratekin's Mammoth Iowa Yellow Dent

stalk of medium height, very profuse blades; the ears are set midway of the stalk, $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 feet from ground, thin husk and small shank or neck at butt of ear, making it very easy to husk or snap; ears run from 8 to 12 inches long and from $7\frac{1}{2}$ to $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches in circumference; every stalk bears from one to two good ears, there being no barren stalks whatever in seasons of ordinary moisture or normal conditions, and withal a wonderful drouth resister.

EARLY MATURITY: In breeding this new variety of corn we have kept uppermost in mind a **LARGE EARED, EARLY MATURING VARIETY** that would make itself in 90 to 110 days, producing the maximum yield.

PRICE: 1 lb., 30c, postpaid; 3 lbs., 75c; 7 lbs. (enough to plan one acre), \$1.25, postpaid; one choice ear, 40c; by express or freight, purchaser's expense, peck, \$1.25; $\frac{1}{2}$ bu., \$2.25; 1 bu., \$4.00; 5 bu. and over, \$3.75 per bushel. For larger quantities write for prices. Prices include bags free, f. o. b. Shenandoah, Iowa. If wanted in the ear, crated, add 75c per bushel to foregoing prices.

NOTE: It has been pointed out by the Department of Agriculture of various state experimental stations and demonstrated beyond question that by suitable crosses of varieties and strains of corn, when thoroughly hybridized, and after having formed a well-developed character it has shown to be of greater productive power, giving materially larger and better yields than either its parents. This point has also been brought to attention through farm bulletins issued by the Department of Agriculture at Washington, and already this method of improving the yield of corn has been taken up by a goodly number of advanced, progressive corn growers. This method, however, requires time, patience and a good degree of intelligence and a good judge of corn to go through all the munitions, combine and bring out the best results. We have given six years' hard study and close attention to every detail in crossing and hybridizing this new variety of corn. Yet, while experimenting on this, we have been trying many other crosses, and this new introduction is the **SUPREME SUCCESS AND RESULT** of all.

Plymouth County, Iowa, Dec. 1st, 1912.

Gentlemen: Replying to your letter of recent date am pleased to say that my crop grown from your Mammoth Iowa Yellow Dent Corn and seed I sent to you for has proven a great success for me here this year, making an average yield of sixty-eight bushels per acre, and at least ten bushels better yield than any other variety I planted this year.

Very truly yours, J. W. MILLER.

Kossouth County, Iowa, Nov. 28th, 1912.

Gentlemen: I am well pleased with your Mammoth Iowa Yellow Dent, both in yield and early maturity, and can fully recommend it as being well adapted to this latitude and locality. My crop from it made an average yield of sixty-four bushels per acre, and was out of the way of frost by September 15th. Very truly,

S. E. BLOEMKER.

Your Mammoth Iowa Yellow Dent is surely the corn for this country. It made better for me the past season two to one than any other variety grown in this locality. Besides it is a month earlier than any of our home-grown sorts.

B. F. HUDSON, McLennan County, Texas.

Sangamon County, Ill., Nov. 27th, 1912.

Gentlemen: I have been well pleased with all the seed I have purchased from you for the past three years, and was especially pleased with the Big Mammoth Yellow Dent I got from you last spring. I have found this to be the best variety of yellow corn I have ever grown. Best in yield and the earliest to mature. You can safely recommend it to the farmers of Illinois, and it will not disappoint their best expectations. Respectfully,

F. W. COLLINS.

St. Joseph County, Ind., Nov. 15th, 1912.

Gentlemen: I purchased seed corn from you in 1910 and 1911, and again last spring, and have always been well pleased with quality of seed and crops grown from it, but I want to especially mention the Big Mammoth Yellow Dent gotten from you last spring. I have grown the finest crop from this that I have even grown in my twenty years' experience as a corn grower. It is sure the corn for this country, giving enormous yield, even size large ears, and every stalk producing one and two ears. Wishing you every success, I remain, yours very truly,

W. S. STAPLETON.

Marion County, Ind., Dec. 7th, 1912.

Gentlemen: Last spring I sent to you for two bushels of your Mammoth Yellow Dent Seed Corn, and must tell you about it. I planted May 10th. It came up quickly and grew off rapidly from the start. I gave it no extra cultivation. It matured ten days ahead of any of our ordinary varieties, and made a yield of twenty bushels more per acre than any of them. It has proven a great success. I am well pleased, and will plant no other variety the coming season. With best wishes I am, your truly,

J. W. WOOLSEY.

Warrick County, Ind., Nov. 25th, 1912.

Gentlemen: Your Mammoth Yellow Dent did well for me and made twenty bushels better yield per acre than any of our best native varieties. It is sure all you claim for it, "The Best Yellow Dent Corn Grown." Large ears and early to mature. Long may you live and prosper. Sincerely yours,

M. C. CHRISTIAN.

Breckenridge County, Ky., Nov. 20th, 1912.

Gentlemen: Your Mammoth Yellow Dent came through with flying colors for me. I have found it the best yellow corn I have ever before tried. In short, it is good enough for me, and I will plant no other the coming season. My entire crop made an average yield of over ninety bushels per acre, and was fully fifteen days earlier to mature than any of our ordinary sorts. Send me your 1912 catalog as soon as ready for mailing. Yours truly,

FRED LOENHARDT.

Your Mammoth Iowa Yellow Dent proved a great success here for me this year.

JOHN W. BURROWS, Christian County, Ky.

RATEKIN'S MAMMOTH IOWA YELLOW DENT beats them all. Just the corn I have been looking for. Will plant my entire crop to it the coming season.

SAMUEL CHEATHAM, Logan County, Ky.

Am well pleased with your Mammoth Iowa Yellow Dent. Grew the best and biggest corn crop from it this year I have ever grown; seventy-two bushels per acre and a month earlier than other sorts.

A. C. MCKINNEY, Boyd County, Ky.

Ratekin's Mammoth Iowa Yellow Dent is the greatest yielder I have ever planted. It's the corn for this country. Will plant no other the coming season.

SAMUEL RUMBAUGH, Fayette County, Ky.

Your Mammoth Yellow Dent is all right. Largest yield and earliest to mature. There is none like it.

L. L. HOWARD, Henderson County, Ky.

Mammoth Yellow Dent is the corn for me. You will never improve on it. It is large, even and uniform, and very early to mature, and the best yielder I have ever tried.

JOE NORTH, Montgomery County, Tenn.

Mammoth Iowa Yellow Dent received and planted April 25th on strong bottom land; had ordinary cultivation; made a yield of eighty-six bushels per acre and came to maturity two weeks ahead of any of our earliest field sorts.

SAMUEL PATERSON, Davidson County, Tenn.

Mammoth Iowa Yellow Dent takes the cake. Received and planted April 17th and 18th; good land and good cultivation; matured early and made a yield of seventy-six bushels per acre of finest corn grown in this country.

FRED TYLER, Shelby County, Tenn.

Mammoth Iowa Yellow Dent has proven a great success here last year. I planted April 10th; land in fine condition; got an excellent stand, and the best yield ever grown in this locality, making seventy-four bushels per acre for every acre planted.

THOMAS SQUIRES, Washington County, Miss.

I have always had good success from corn seed I got from you, but among all the best was your Mammoth Iowa Yellow Dent the past season, when I got a yield of seventy-three bushels per acre from my entire crop. It's early, large and fine for this country. Will plant no other the coming season.

J. C. PERRY, Le Flore County, Miss.

I grew a bumper crop from your Mammoth Iowa Yellow Dent the past season and can fully recommend it for this country. It is much larger in stalk and ear, and matures a month ahead of any of our native sorts, and yields two to one more and better corn per acre.

SAMUEL PARKER, Hunt County, Texas.

Your Mammoth Iowa Yellow Dent came through with sailing colors, and has proven the best corn ever introduced into this part of the country. Send your 1913 catalog as soon as ready.

L. W. COOPER, Robinson County, Texas.

Dubuque County, Iowa, Dec. 5th, 1912.

Gentlemen: I was well pleased with the seed corn, Ratekin's Iowa Yellow Dent, received from you last spring, and have found it everything you recommended it to be. It is a large-eared, early maturing corn, one of the best yielding varieties I have ever grown. Truly yours,

L. M. EVERETT.

Ratekin's Big Banner White

IT'S ALL IN THE SEED



(Ratekin's Big Banner White).

Here is another new introduction, never catalogued until last year, although introduced in a limited way by us two years ago, and from the splendid reports that have come to us from everywhere, as well as our own experience and knowledge of its breeding, its adaptability to a wide range of conditions, including climate and soil, we have not the least hesitation in recommending this corn to our customers and the trade in general everywhere.

This corn is a cross between two of the best known varieties grown. Briefly told, it is a cross between Ratekin's Iowa Silver Mine and Boone County White, which we have been hybridizing and breeding up to a distinct character for the past seven years; thus establishing a variety of strong character, uniformity in size, color and shape, which we have aimed to accomplish before offering it as a new introduction. At the beginning, we started out knowing these varieties could be blended together in a way that would be an improvement over either of them, and we now have perfected in this new corn a variety that we believe will become more famous than either its parents have ever been.

As every farmer knows who has tried it the Iowa Silver Mine has proven of greater tenacity, life and vigor to resist unfavorable conditions, extreme drouth, hot weather, etc., than any other variety of corn in existence—that is a variety that does better on poor, thin or old land, and yet on good rich land it has shown larger and bigger yields than any other variety in the world, has also taken more premiums and prizes at county, state and national fairs and corn shows than any other variety of corn in existence.

The Boone County White, with which the cross is made, is a somewhat larger eared and larger stalk than Iowa Silver Mine; also somewhat later, requiring ten to twenty days longer to mature, but we believe in this cross we have combined together one of the best varieties of corn that has ever been produced. This prediction has been so thoroughly verified from our experience and reports from those who tried this corn out last year that we feel justified in giving our unqualified endorsement and recommendation of it to the farmers, and we want every corn grower who plants corn to try it the coming season.

DESCRIPTION: Ratekin's Big Banner White is a pure bred white variety; every stalk produces from one to two good well developed ears, running from eight to twelve inches in length and from seven to $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches in circumference, containing from sixteen to twenty-two rows deep grains solidly set on a medium size cob; stalks grow from seven to twelve feet in height, dependent on ground planted on; broad blades and a lot of them, making it an excellent variety for fodder or ensilage purposes; matures in 100 to 110 days from planting, and yields on good corn land under ordinary tillage from sixty to 100 bushels per acre, good, sound, solid, well matured corn.

PRICE: Postpaid, one ear, 40c; 1 lb., 30c; 3 lbs., 75c; 7 lbs. (enough to plant one acre), \$1.25; by freight or express, purchaser's expense, peck, \$1.00; $\frac{1}{2}$ bu., \$1.75; 1 bu., \$3.00; 2 bu., \$5.50; 4 bu. and over, \$2.50 per bushel. If wanted in ear, boxed, add 75c per bushel to above prices.

Dubuque County, Iowa, Dec. 10th, 1912.

Gentlemen: You may be interested to know my experience and results from **RATEKIN'S BIG BANNER WHITE** Seed Corn, obtained from you last spring. I have just finished husking my corn crop and find this corn gave me an average yield of **NINETY-SEVEN BUSHELS PER ACRE** and over thirty bushels better yield than any other variety grown on my farm; all under same exact conditions. Shall remember you again when in want of any seeds. Very truly yours,

FRED J. SCHICK.

Storey County, Iowa, Nov. 20th, 1912.

Gentlemen: I have just finished harvesting my corn crop and have been waiting until it was all gathered, in order to make intelligent report. I planted May 13th and 14th and my crop from your Big Banner White was sufficiently matured by September 15th to be out of the way of any injury from frost, and my entire crop, thirty-two acres of it, gave me a yield of seventy-six bushels per acre, weighed out of the field at seventy-five pounds per bushel. It has surely proven all you claim for it and has proven the best in both yield and quality of any variety I have ever grown and I have been a corn grower for over thirty years. Very truly yours,

SAMUEL J. KURTZ.

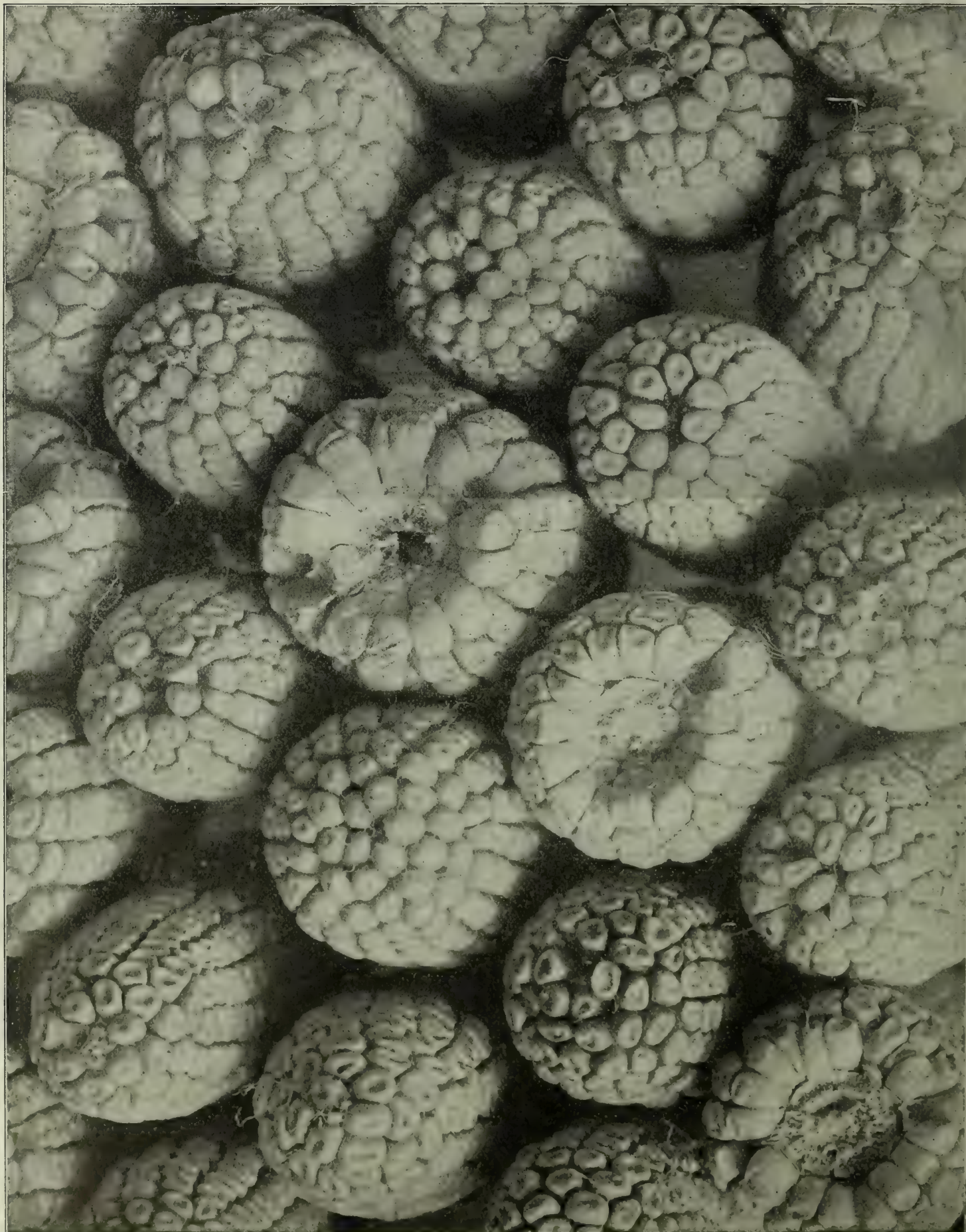
McLean County, Illinois, Dec. 1st, 1912.

Gentlemen: In regard to the seed corn obtained from you last spring, **RATEKIN'S BIG BANNER WHITE**, would say I have found in it just what I have been looking for; an early high yielding variety, for the past ten years. I planted forty acres from the six bushels of seed obtained from you May 15th, 16th, 17th and 18th, and from this forty acres I have harvested 2880 bushels of the soundest, best corn I ever put into my cribs. This was an average of seventy-two bushels per acre. My crop was harrowed once when coming through the ground and afterward plowed three times—had no extra cultivation. Allow me to again thank you for the high germinating qualities of seed sent me; also for your prompt action in shipment.

Very truly yours, HERMAN SCHMIT.

Diamond Joe's Big White

The World's Greatest Yielding White Corn.
153 Bushels Per Acre. (Select Ears.)



FOR FULL DESCRIPTION SEE NEXT PAGE.

Diamond Joe's Big White



A. W. Butler, Plymouth County, Mass. Awarded First Prize, New England Corn Show, 132½ Bushels of Diamond Joe's Big White Per Acre.



The Big Early White Corn That Has Captivated The Entire Corn World. After we originated and perfected a true type and character to Diamond Joe's Big White and catalogued it the first time, seven years ago, we believed then, as it has proven, and we now know, that it would mark a new era in the corn growing world. The first year we offered and catalogued it we bespoke for it a bright future that meant a streak of gold to the man who planted it. We had but about seven thousand bushels of this variety to offer that year, but on our recommendation and the record of this new variety of corn we sold out and our stock was exhausted long before corn planting season begun, and we were compelled to return cash and orders for as much more. Everywhere tried and tested, north, south, east and west, it has proven a wonderful success, producing enormous yields and maturing as early as the earliest varieties. Since that time we have grown it more extensively than any other white variety, increasing our acreage more and more each year, but every year we have sold out before planting season was over. All who have been fortunate enough to secure and plant this corn have won a prize by doubling their yields. In fact, it would make one gasp with astonishment to see and read the hundreds of letters and reports we have received from those who have planted and grown crops from it. Many of the reports are almost unbelievable, while all are loud in their praise. On another page will be found a few only of the hundreds of similar letters we have had from our customers, and, strange to say, we have never had a complaint from a customer after his crop was made.

DESCRIPTION: Stalks are large, strong and robust, growing to a height of 8 to 12 feet, dependent upon the land; very deep, heavy root, almost equal to sorghum or broom corn, thus a great drouth resister; broad blades and many of them; ears 8 to 12 inches long and 7 to 8 inches in circumference; 16 to 22 rows, deep grains, solidly set rows on a medium size cob; cobs white. This corn has been carefully bred with an eye single to yield and early maturity, not for show purposes, every stalk producing one to three good ears. It is not only adapted to good, strong ground, but will do better and return larger yields on old, poor, thin or hilly ground than any other variety in existence. In short, it is the embodiment of all the good qualities contained in all the best varieties. It's the sure thing—all we claim for it. Our seed stock of this corn is exceptionally fine this year (extra choice), having been grown from absolutely pure seed stock, and we have made a selection of the most choice ears, and hope to be able to fill every order promptly that comes to us this year.

Clark County, Mo., Feb 28th, 1912.

Gentlemen: The Diamond Joe's Big White I got from you last year made a remarkable record for me. Practically every grain grew and every stalk produced from one to two good ears, greatly increasing the yield over other varieties. Enclosed find my order for seed for the coming season.

Truly yours, ROSCOE G. THOMPSON.

Lowell, N. C., Feb. 15th, 1912.

Gentlemen: In 1910 I sent to you for some of your Diamond Joe's Big White, and it has simply proven the finest corn that was ever grown in this locality, but I, unfortunately lost seed from of it and want to send direct to you for seed the coming season. Please send me your catalogue. Respectfully yours, MRS J. B. ABERNATHEY.

Lanasco, Texas, Feb. 20th, 1912.

Gentlemen: I sent to you for some Diamond Joe's Big White Corn three years ago, and I was well pleased with it. Never have found any variety of corn that has given as good results, but lost my seed and I am herewith enclosing you an order for four bushels of this variety. Kindly ship prompt on receipt of this order. Truly yours,

I. B. J. SILER.

Moro, Ill., April 1st, 1912.

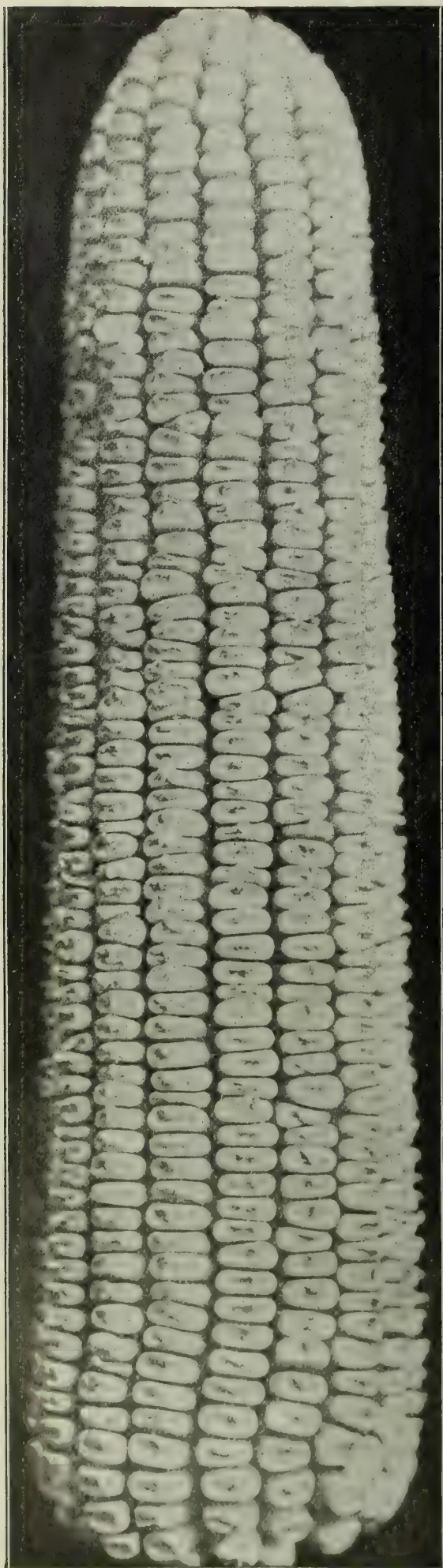
Gentlemen: Please give us your best prices on seed corn. We have handled your seed corn for the past two years and have planted it on our own farms and have obtained splendid results. Give us your best dealers' prices. Very truly yours, LANTERMAN BROS.

POINTS OF SUPREMACY OVER OTHER VARIETIES.

1. It is pure and a distinct variety.
2. It is a strong, vigorous, robust grower from the start.
3. It is absolutely free from barren stalks, every stalk bearing one or more well developed ears.
4. It is very early to mature, making itself anywhere in 100 days or less.
5. It will thrive and do well in extreme drouth, where other varieties fail.
6. "DIAMOND JOE'S BIG WHITE" is a superior variety of corn from every point of view. If you are looking for the corn that will make you the most bushels and the most money, stop right now and order enough to plant your entire crop. It's the corn that will do it.

PRICES: Sample ear, postpaid, 25c; 1 lb., postpaid, 25c; 3 lb., 70c; 7 lbs. (enough to plant one acre), \$1.25; peck, 75c; half bu., \$1.40; 1 bu., \$2.50; 2 bu., \$4.50; 5 bu. and upward, \$2.20 per bu. Bags included, f. o. b. Shenandoah. If wanted in ear or box, add 75c per bushel to foregoing prices.

"LISTEN TO THE PEOPLE"



Diamond Joe's Big White.

"The people voice the sentiment. They know whether a thing is right or wrong. They know whether it is good, bad or indifferent. They praise it if it is good and condemn it if it is bad. The opinion of the people is worth a hundred times more than the opinion of the man who owns the proposition that is being talked about."

TESTIMONIALS FROM THE PEOPLE.

Brockton, Plymouth County, Mass., March 15th, 1912.

Ratekin's Seed House, Shenandoah, Iowa.

Gentlemen: You sent me some fine seed corn again last spring, "Diamond Joe's Big White," and I got a perfect stand, the best I ever had, but a hailstorm came along and put my corn crop off the map. I am, however, going to try for 150 bushels per acre this year, and expect to make it if I get as good a stand as last year. This is pretty big talk, but you will remember that I **GREW THE PRIZE WINNING CROP AT THE GREAT NEW ENGLAND CORN SHOW** three years ago, and was **AWARDED \$100 IN GOLD** for the **LARGEST YIELD** per acre in the contest of all the New England States. That year I grew an average of 132½ bushels per acre shelled corn from Diamond Joe's Big White I got from you. (See Illustration on page 10). Please ship my order at earliest convenience, and oblige very truly yours,

A. WEBSTER BUTLER.

Detroit, Mich., April 4.

Gentlemen: From half bushel of Diamond Joe's Big White got from you last spring I planted three acres on old land. Notwithstanding this I grew and obtained a trifle over **THREE HUNDRED BUSHELS** of corn from the **THREE ACRES**. I might add that we had the worst drouth known in this part of the country. I planted May 15th, matured and harvested October 1st. Very truly yours,

CHARLES C. SCHNEIDER.

Lincoln County, Okla., Feb. 10.

Gentlemen: I am pleased to tell you that your Diamond Joe's Big White makes good, rain or no rain. I planted the seed got from you in good time, but we had it extremely dry here. Never had but one rain from time it came up until it was too late to be of benefit to corn, yet it made a good crop and about three times as much per acre as our best native sorts. Anyone could go into the field and tell to a row and to the last hill where Diamond Joe was planted. I shall plant no other variety this year. Truly yours,

JAMES F. JORDON.

Farmers and others have been attracted by the exhibition of corn that has been in the window at Dilley's store for some time. It was grown by J. W. Dale, and two acres produced 207 bushels and fifty pounds, which is perhaps the largest yield of corn ever known in this community. Mr. Dale says the moles took many of the seed, and but for this fact the yield would have been even better. In gathering the corn great care was taken to keep the top and bottom ears, main crop, sucker ears and nubbins separate. The choicest of the main crop Mr. Dale will save for seed.

The corn is white, long, even ears, and is known as "**RATEKIN'S DIAMOND JOE**." The ground was in good order for planting, but no extra work was done in the way of cultivation.—Mitchell Tribune, Indiana.

Tremont, Ill., March 21, 1912.

Gentlemen: I would like one of your 1912 catalogues as soon as I can get it. I want some seed corn. I sent to you some years ago for seed corn, and can say it was about as fine as any seed I have ever seen. I don't believe there was a kernel that didn't grow. In fact, I was more than surprised at how well it come. Very truly yours,

JOHN DAY.

Baltimore City, Md., Jan. 8, 1912.

I have read your catalogue and planted your seed since 1907, and I am now raising 200 bushels of corn per acre. Please send me your 1912 catalogue, so that I can select what seed I want for the coming season. Thanking you in advance for this favor, I am truly yours,

JESSIE DeHOFF.

Scotch Plains, N. J., March 6, 1912.

Gentlemen: I got some of your Diamond Joe's Big White seed corn from you four years ago and had good success from it. I am now in want of some seed potatoes. Kindly send me your catalogue at earliest convenience. Truly yours,

HERMAN TOMS.

Lytle, Colo., March 9, 1912.

Gentlemen: I live fifteen miles southeast of Pike's Peak and nineteen miles from Colorado Springs. I have been planting your Diamond Joe's Big White corn here for a number of years, and am well pleased with it, but have always received my seed a little late and have not been able to plant as early as I would have liked, but under the conditions it has done remarkably well. I am sending you an order for 3½ bushels of this variety, and hope you will give it prompt attention. I want to get my seed and have it at hand when conditions for planting are good. Rush it along.

Yours very truly,

W. C. DOCKUM.

Amelia, Ohio, Feb. 22, 1912.

I had a small package of Diamond Joe's Big White last year, and am so favorably impressed with it I am sending you an order for my entire crop this year.

MRS. FRANK SUHR.

Oakton, Ky., May 6th, 1912.

Gentlemen: I have been growing your Diamond Joe's Big White for the past two years, but have lost out on seed. Please send me your catalogue with prices. I shall want ten bushels of this variety this year. Advise how quickly you can make shipment. Truly yours,

VES KELLEY.

Solon, Iowa, May 1st, 1912.

Gentlemen: I see by my paper that you are still in the seed corn business. I sent to you seven years ago for seed corn and got the best corn that I have ever grown. I am in need of seed corn for the coming season. Please send me your catalogue by return mail. Very truly yours,

JOE LENOCH.

Hartington, Neb., April 28th, 1912.

Gentlemen: I sent to you twelve years ago and got the best seed corn I have ever planted, but will have to buy seed corn this year. Please send me your catalogue and let me hear from you at earliest convenience.

Truly yours,

GEO. W. DEMIRST.

"LISTEN TO THE PEOPLE"

And You Will Seldom Go Wrong.

WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT "DIAMOND JOE'S BIG WHITE."

Emerald, Neb., March 10th, 1912.

Gentlemen: I ordered my seed from you last year, including some Diamond Joe's Big White, and think it the best investment I ever made. Send me your 1912 catalogue by return mail, as I will want seed again this year.

Truly yours, G. C. DEINERT.

Rock City, Ill., March 12th, 1912.

Gentlemen: The seed corn you sent me was fine, and I am enclosing herewith another order. Truly yours,

ROBERT MARSH.

Winniewood, Okla., March 2nd, 1912.

Gentlemen: I have received the seed corn ordered from you and I am well pleased. It looks good to me.

Truly yours, S. W. ALLEN.

Albion, Iowa, Feb. 23d, 1912.

Gentlemen: Five years ago I sent to you for seed corn, and from it I have each year obtained splendid results. I like it so well I want to give you another order if you are still engaged in the seed trade. Please send me a copy of your 1912 catalogue at earliest convenience.

Very truly yours, MRS. BELLE HOBBS.

Brookville, Fla., Jan. 26th, 1912.

Gentlemen: The Diamond Joe's Big White seed corn I got from you has proven a great success. It even did better and made better than you claim for it. Send me a copy of your 1912 catalogue by return mail, as I shall want a good quantity of seeds of various kinds as quick as I can get them. Truly yours,

M. S. ZIMMERLY.

Ashdown, Ark., Feb. 10th, 1912.

Gentlemen: I have just moved here from Missouri. Before coming here I planted your Diamond Joe's Big White in Missouri with splendid results. Will want enough to plant my crop here this year. Please send me your catalogue by return mail. Very truly yours,

E. F. FIX.

Osceola, Mo., Feb. 13th, 1912.

Gentlemen: I have planted and grown crops from your Diamond Joe's Big White for the past two years and find it everything you claim for it. Please send me your 1912 catalogue. Truly yours,

C. C. LAIR.

Bronte, Texas, Feb. 3rd, 1912.

Gentlemen: I am sending to you for some Diamond Joe's Big White seed corn. I have planted your Diamond Joe's Big White in north Texas for a number of years. It ripens and matures there three to four weeks earlier than any of the ordinary native sorts. In fact, was always in roasting ear when the native varieties begun to tassel. Rush seed along. Very truly yours,

O. C. IVEY.

Canile, Ariz., March 1st, 1912.

Gentlemen: Please send me a copy of your 1912 catalogue and give me best prices on two bushels of Diamond Joe's Big White. I have planted this corn here with excellent good results. However, I lost out on my seed for this year. An early reply with your catalogue will be appreciated.

Very truly yours, WM. E. BOWER.

La Flore County, Okla., Feb. 17th, 1912.

Gentlemen: The Diamond Joe's White I got from you last year came to the front in excellent shape, although we had a very severe drouth. I made as much per acre from it as lots of my neighbors made from twenty acres planted from native sorts. Truly yours,

C. A. COATE.

Hunt County, Texas, Feb. 21st, 1913.

Gentlemen: Please send me a copy of your 1912 seed catalogue. I have planted your Diamond Joe's Big White Corn here for the past four years, and have never found anything that has given as good results. My seed has become mixed with other varieties, and will want new seed this year. I could buy seed here much cheaper, but prefer sending direct to you for my seed, as I always get much better results from your seed than from seed purchased from any of our local leaders. Very truly yours,

SILAS D. LACKEY.

Pontiac, Mich., Feb. 14th, 1912.

Gentlemen: I have had such wonderful success from the seed corn that I bought from you last year I feel confident my neighbors will want a lot of seed corn this year, and if you can supply us will be glad to hear from you. Give me your best wholesale prices in quantity lots. Truly yours,

A. M. BUTLER.

Seed Corn---Best Varieties

"The Best of All"

would doubtless apply to one single variety, but in our extensive business and specialty, that of growing seed corn for the wholesale and retail mail order trade, we have originated and selected a large number of the leading and best varieties known or grown. Some farmers think one variety the best, while others may choose another. Some sorts are especially suited to one locality, or for intended purposes, while others may be best suited or adapted to their requirements. For these reasons we shall endeavor only to bring out the character points of each, leaving it to our customer to make his own choice. If, however, you are in doubt, write us and we will be glad to assist you in every way we can. **OUR TWENTY-NINE YEARS' EXPERIENCE** with that of a hundred thousand or more farmers scattered all over the United States who have planted our seed corn is at your command. **ALL OUR VARIETIES HAVE BEEN IMPROVED AND GROWN FROM THE BEST STRAINS**, and if there were other better or more popular sorts we surely would grow them here in this **GARDEN OF EDEN FOR GROWING CORN**.

Again Is It Worth It's Cost?

The corn we sell is grown from seed which has been brought to such a degree of perfection on our seed farms as to render it of great value. It represents the labor of many years and an expenditure of a very large sum of money. It has behind it the history of big crops. We know when you plant it, barring flood or drouth, it will yield heavily. Is this care worth thirty cents an acre to anyone planting corn?

Corn and Cornology.

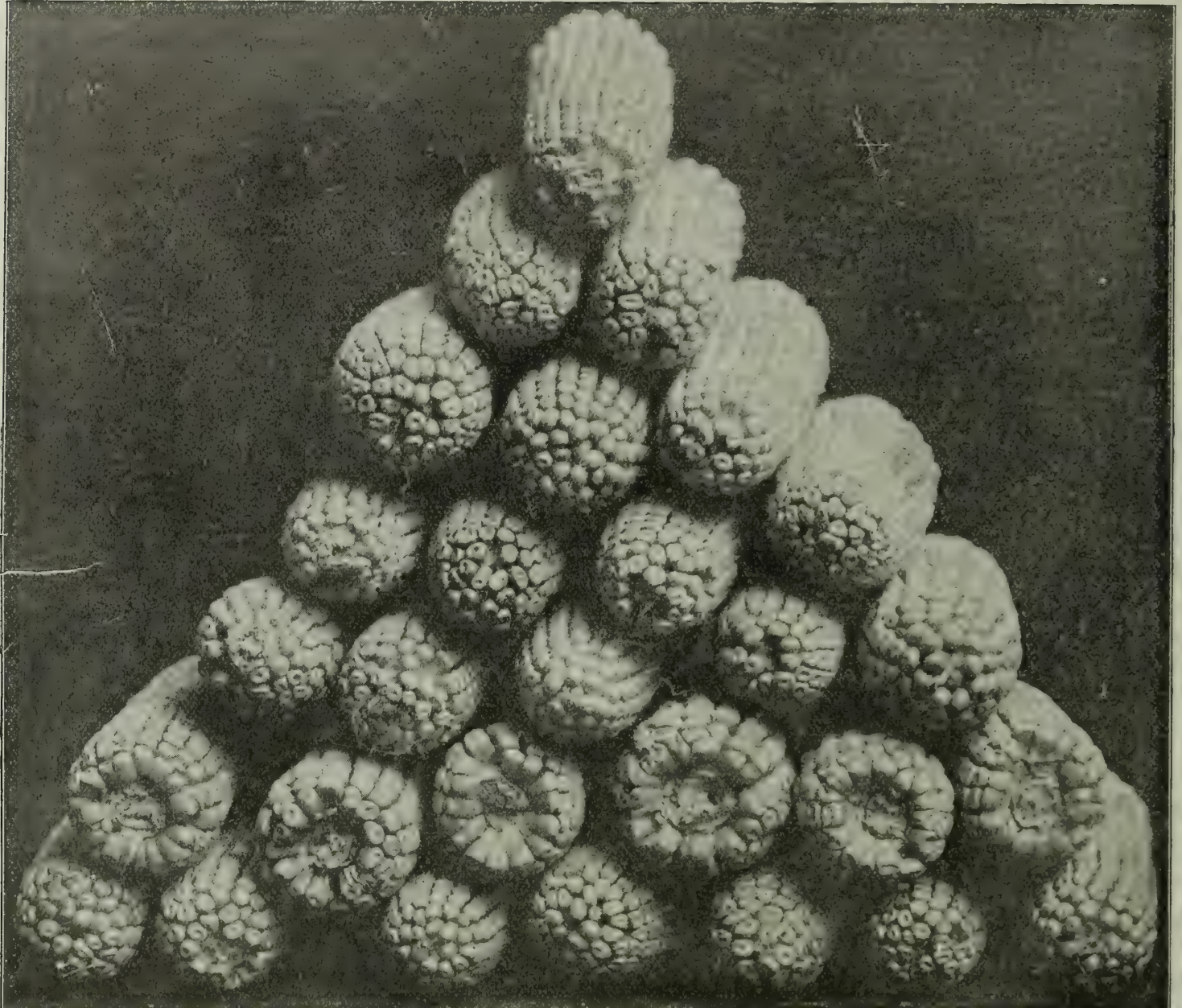
It is a well known fact, long conceded, that the Nishnabotna Valley of Southwestern Iowa is noted as the world's most famous corn growing district, where corn has been brought to its highest perfection, capable of imparting a vitality that is retained wherever transplanted for a number of years. To prove this theory is only necessary to cite the fact that imported wheat, oats and other cereal crops from Russia, Turkey, Crimea, Sweden, western Canada and other foreign countries have not only increased, but doubled our yields in this country. What's the explanation? It is because the seed was grown and imported from its most natural home, where propagated to the highest degree of perfection. Now days and since the practical progressive corn growers have blazed out the way and made new discoveries theoretical experts and corn ologists have sprung up like hot house plants grown over night, who undertake to tell you more about seed corn and corn growing than the practical, successful corn growing farmer learned in fifty years' experience.

Seed Corn and Varieties For Your Locality.

Choosing varieties adapted to your climate, soil and latitude is a very important factor. A great many failures in sending away for seed corn are due to the customer's selecting the variety he thinks he wants instead of the corn that is best suited to his locality. In view of this I shall venture to make some suggestions that may help you in a general way in making your selections. Of course I realize that conditions often vary in the same state. For instance, between northern and southern Nebraska, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana and Ohio. Therefore you should take these suggestions in a general way. Practically any of the following varieties will be all right for the southern half of Iowa or in line or south of that latitude, east and west, from western Nebraska to eastern Ohio. Mammoth Iowa Yellow Dent, Boone County White, Reid's Yellow Dent and Wallace's Favorite are not safe for main crop further north, but should be grown on a small scale with a view of acclimation and selection of a type suitable for your climate. Yet under favorable conditions any of them will ripen and make enormous crops as far north as the southern Minnesota line, but for an absolute certain, well-matured crop we advise planting medium early varieties, such as Pride of Nishna, Iowa Gold Mine, Ratekin's Gold Standard 90-day corn, Queen of Nishna, Alaska Northwestern Dent, Diamond Joe's Big White, Iowa Silver Mine, Silver King (Wisconsin No. 7), and Pride of the North. For Missouri, southern Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Kansas, and from there south to the Gulf coast, plant Mammoth Iowa Yellow Dent, Pride of Nishna, Reid's Yellow Dent, Legal Tender, Gold Standard Leaming, Diamond Joe's Big White, Iowa Silver Mine, Ratekin's Banner White, Boone County White and Wallace's Favorite. From Pennsylvania, West Virginia, New Jersey and southern New York plant medium early varieties, like Diamond Joe's Big White, Ratekin's Banner White, Iowa Silver Mine, Pride of Nishna, Gold Standard Leaming, Iowa Gold Mine and Reid's Yellow Dent. For northern New York and the New England states we recommend our early varieties, such as Queen of Nishna, Gold Standard 90-day corn, Pride of North and our early mammoth flint varieties. Except where corn is grown for ensilage purposes plant Pride of Nishna, Gold Standard Leaming, Reid's Yellow Dent, Diamond Joe's Big White, Ratekin's Banner White, or any other standard varieties, such as we grow here in Iowa for general field crop.

Ratekin's Iowa Silver Mine White Corn

THE GREATEST RECORD OF ANY WHITE CORN IN THE WORLD.



Ratekin's Iowa Silver Mine White, Never Fails.

FAMOUS CORN! BEST LOVED CORN; MORE WIDELY KNOWN AND PLANTED THAN ANY CORN IN THE WORLD; HAS GREATEST RECORD OF ANY CORN ON EARTH. It's an early maturing corn. It is a corn for the north, south, east and west; it gladdens the farmers heart at harvest time; makes good where other sorts fail. It brings prosperity to the man who plants it.

We have been growing and improving this variety of white corn for sixteen years—made it our leader prior to introducing our Diamond Joe's Big White—have sold and sent out approximately 500,000 bushels seed of it to all parts of this country, including every state in the Union, also to many of the foreign countries—Central Europe, South Africa, Austria, Philippine Islands, New Zealand, Argentine and South America, and everywhere it has given a good account of itself. It is adapted to a wider range of conditions than any variety of corn known or grown. It has shown the greatest **PRIZE RECORD FOR YIELD** at county, district and state fairs, corn shows and farmers institutes of any variety of corn in the world. Possibly others have won premiums over it in exhibitions of ears, but this was in the skill and judgment of the exhibitor in the selecting of ears that conformed nearest to the score card upon which points were judged, but such prizes and awards amount to nothing. **IT'S the BIG BUSHELS** the farmer wants and is after when he plants his field crop for feeding and for market purposes.

"Ratekin's Iowa Silver Mine" Is noted for its great vitality to withstand and resist extreme conditions of weather, wet or dry; also hot weather, and makes good crops where other sorts wither, burn up and perish under dry, hot winds and scorching sunshine. Each year that we have grown this corn we have sought to select and improve it in every way possible, not so much to increase the size of the ears, but to increase the uniformity of size and also the number of ears to the stalk, and have thus eliminated all barren, weak and sickly stalks, and have brought it up to the highest standard of **PERFECTION**, both in **YIELD** and **EARLY MATURITY**.

There is scarcely a township or neighborhood anywhere that corn is grown but what some of your neighbors can tell you about **"RATEKIN'S IOWA SILVER MINE"** and the splendid results obtained from it. In view of this we do not deem it necessary, if space would permit, to print even a partial list of testimonials we have received pertaining to this wonderful corn.

"Ratekin's Iowa Silver Mine" Corn Is not a new variety, but is one of the oldest and best known sorts, and on account of its great popularity and wonderful record it has made, there are thousands of bushels of mongrel white corn offered and sold every year under the name of Iowa Silver Mine that is no kin to **RATEKIN'S PURE BRED STOCK**, and is incomparable in every essential quality with **RATEKIN'S** genuine stock that has been kept pure and bred up and improved from year to year.

(See next page for description, page 15).

Ratekin's Iowa Silver Mine White Corn

THE GREATEST RECORD OF ANY WHITE CORN IN THE WORLD.

"Ratekin's Iowa Silver Mine"

Is as near drouth proof as any variety in existence, and being of extreme hardiness and vitality, will do better on old, poor or hilly land than any variety known or grown. We offer this corn to the eastern farmer as one of the very best for feeding and for ensilage purposes. In the Southern States, where we have sent tens of thousands of bushels during the past twelve years, it has proven the salvation to the country, and where we were selling only a few bushels here and there a few years ago we are now selling in car load lots to seed houses and dealers all over the South, including Oklahoma, Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, Kentucky, Alabama and Georgia, from which points we do a large retail trade in North and South Carolina and Virginia.

DESCRIPTION: Stalk—Medium in height, ranging from seven to ten feet high (dependent upon the land, hill or bottom ground); very leafy broad blades and a lot of them. The type of this corn is very even and uniform; ears run from 9 to 12 inches long, 16 to 20 rows of pure white kernels, solidly set on a medium small cob, ears well filled out at butt and tip ends. The cob being small, it dries out rapidly while the corn is ripening. Thus it is always ready for feeding, husking and marketing earlier than any other of the leading standard varieties by fully two weeks. It is a most wonderful drouth resister, and stands the hot climate and early drouths in the South, where they sometimes are affected with these difficulties, better than any native or other sorts. In addition to this all our Iowa grown seed corn when planted in the South—Oklahoma, Kansas, Missouri, Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, Kentucky, Alabama, Georgia, Virginia, North and South Carolina—comes to maturity and ripens fully three to four weeks quicker and earlier than any of the native sorts, thus cutting off that much in the most critical period in the making and maturing of a corn crop, besides it comes into feeding and milling uses and purposes that much earlier. In short, briefly stated, **OUR PURE BRED SEED CORN** can be planted anywhere in the Central Western and Southern States with an absolute assurance of early maturity and an increased yield of from ten to forty bushels more per acre than can be obtained from the ordinary best varieties. **RATEKIN'S IOWA SILVER MINE** matures in from ninety to one hundred days here in Iowa.

PRIZE RECORD—Everywhere. At one fair ten best ears took first prize, ten smaller ears second prize. Afterwards ten best took sweepstakes over all others, both white and yellow. Total premiums \$95.00. Captured prize offered in 1896 for largest yield against all other sorts of any kind or color, yielding 215 bushels in Scott County, Iowa. In 1899 the Agricultural Society of Illinois offered three prizes for largest yield on one acre; Iowa Silver Mine was awarded all of them, 196, 176 and 154 bushels per acre. It produced 215 bushels in Iowa, 211 in Indiana, 201 in Arkansas, 196 in Illinois, 145 in Nebraska, 144 in Ohio, 137 bushels per acre in Texas. **IT'S THE CORN FOR EVERYWHERE.** I can fully recommend it.

PRICE: Postage by mail, sample ear, 25c; 1 lb., 25c; 3 lbs., 60c; 7 lbs. (will plant one acre), \$1.00. By freight or express at purchaser's expense; peck, 50c; half bu., 90c; 1 bu. to 4 bu., \$1.75; 5 to 10 bu. and over, \$1.60 per bu. Bags free on board cars here. If wanted in ear, crated, add 75c per bu. to above prices.

Home of the Tamworth Hog! Pigs For Sale at All Times; Land to Give Away to White Folks. Actual Settlers—Will Build You a House, Buy or Rent You a Farm at Actual Cost—We Plant Ratekin's Seeds.

Ratekin's Seed House, Shenandoah, Iowa:

Gentlemen: Your "Silver Mine" and "Diamond Joe" Seed Corn has proved our salvation here this year on account of its earliness in getting ahead of the dry weather. On one measured acre we gathered seventy-five bushels of "Silver Mine," which is the average of our field. We are now raising a crop of "Pride of Nishna" on the same ground which is in full silk and tassel. Our neighbors called us foolish when we planted your northern seed corn, but now the laugh is on the other side, as the best any of them have done is about twenty-five bushels per acre. You can count on us a permanent patron in the future. We also wish to thank you for prompt replies and your all round courteous treatment during the whole time we have been doing business with you. Yours very truly,

Bogue Chitto, Miss., July 31st, 1911.

CAPT. F. A. JEMIGAN, Mgr.

Boone County, Iowa, March 6.

Ratekin's Seed House:

The twenty-seven bushels of Iowa Silver Mine Seed Corn purchased from you last year was planted all in one field of 160 acres of land husked and weighed out every bushel at eighty pounds per bushel at husking time and yielded an average of over seventy bushels per acre for entire field. Would have made much more had cutworms not damaged some of it badly. Respectfully,

S. S. McGRATH.

Madison County, Ill., Jan. 20, 1912.

Please send me a copy of your 1912 catalogue. In regard to Ratekin's Iowa Silver Mine, also Diamond Joe's Big White, I got from you several years ago will say if I had known about them long before I did I would have raised **HUNDREDS OF BUSHELS MORE ON THE SAME AMOUNT OF LAND** than I did from ordinary varieties with same amount of labor. Yours truly,

WM. HERRMAN, Bethalto, Ill.

Hinton, Iowa, May 1st, 1912.

Ratekin's Seed House:

The Silver Mine Seed Corn you sent to me is so satisfactory that I am encouraged to send you an order for some of your Iowa Gold Mine. Kindly advise me how you are fixed, and if you can make prompt shipment. Very truly,

E. P. HEIZER.

Brooks, Iowa, April 3, 1912.

Gentlemen: Enclosed find my check for \$11.40, for which please send me six bushels of Iowa Silver Mine Seed Corn and the following list of garden seeds. I have ordered and received seeds from you before, and I have always been well pleased. That is why I am sending back to you. Truly yours,

F. F. NOLTE.

I have just received your catalogue, which reminds me to say I planted my crop to your **IOWA SILVER MINE** White Corn last year, and as a result find that if my entire crop had been planted from it I would have had three times as much corn per acre as I got from our best native sorts. In short, I found it everything you claim for it.

JOHN W. WILSON, Wilson County, Tenn.

The seed corn I bought for my Arkansas farms and sent to Clarence Vollmer, Ponset County, last year gave splendid satisfaction, although we had sixty-three days' drouth, beginning July 8th. Enclosed find draft for \$61.50 for timothy and Alsike clover seed. Ship promptly, same address as before given, Clarence Vollmer, Ponset County, truly yours,

E. B. BOYD, Warren County, Ill.

Mr. Boyd is one of our most valued customers. Never complains of price, but always says, "Send the best you have, and send your bill to me." has bought over \$1,000 worth of seeds from us for his farms during the past five years.

Du Page County, Ill., Dec. 1st.

The **IOWA SILVER MINE** I got from you last spring, planted May 25th, had good cultivation; matured safely and soundly, ready to crib early in October; averaged seventy-two bushels per acre; quality fine; exhibited samples at Harvest Home exhibition this fall and was awarded first prize in a large number of exhibits—sharp competition. My corn ground was not of best, but measurably good. However, other common sorts on same land and same cultivation made but forty-five bushels per acre, a difference of twenty-seven bushels per acre in yield in favor of your **SILVER MINE**. I have given you the facts only, and you are at liberty to use this statement. Truly yours,

M. F. OLDFIELD.

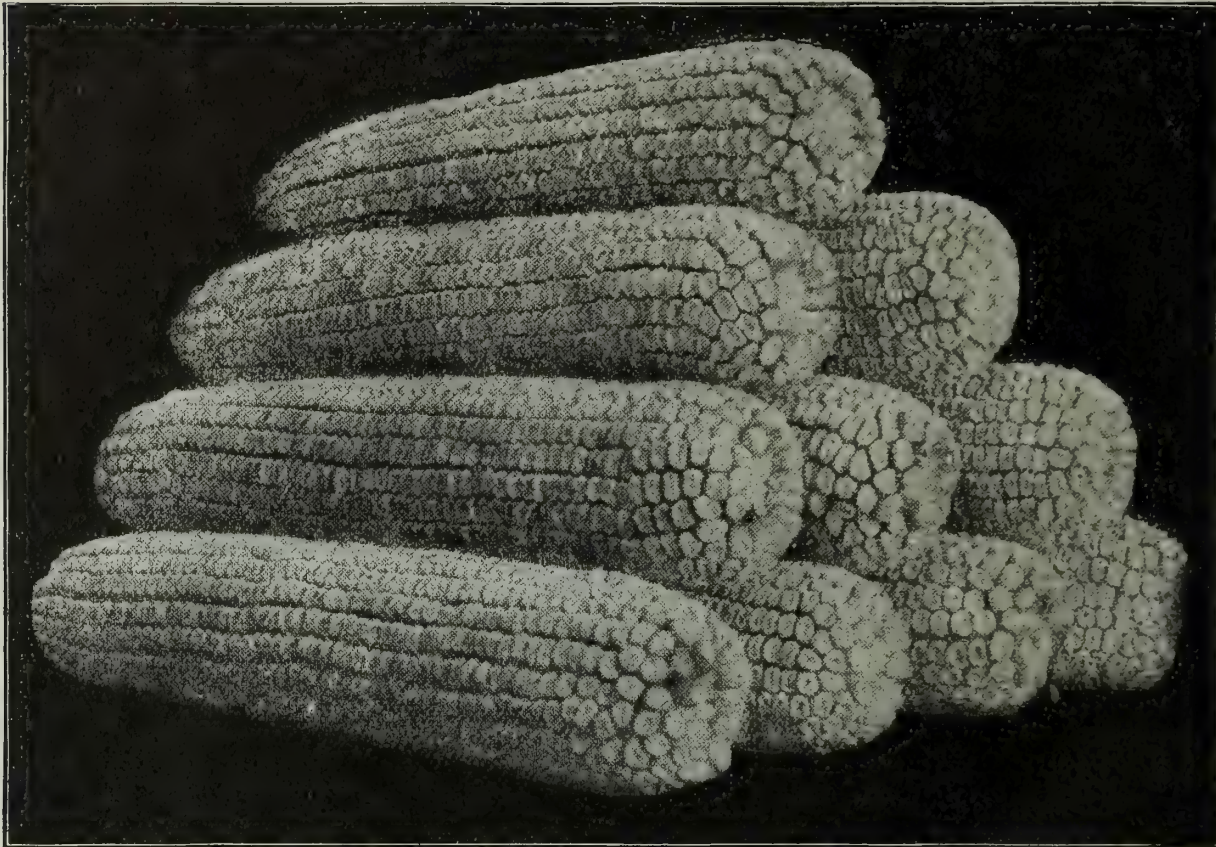
THIS IS EASY ENOUGH.

After good ground comes good seed, and good varieties, followed by good cultivation. No intelligent farmer can commence aright unless he is first possessed of the two former, with a will and determination to perform the third; for without good soil, good seed and good varieties I trust no farmer will expect a premium crop, however, even with ordinary or poor soil he can beat and distance the average of the country by far if he is possessed only with the two latter things named, good seed and varieties, and plenty of industry and proper cultivation. It is profit in anything that counts. If thirty bushels of corn to the acre pays expenses only then sixty or seventy bushels would give a handsome profit.

Ratekin's "Iowa Silver Mine" will do this if you, Mr. Farmer, will do your part. We want you to read every page of this book and then say, "What others have done I, too, can do."

Ratekin's Pride of Nishna

Grand, Glorious Corn.



THE ABOVE ILLUSTRATES THE HIGHEST TYPE OF THIS FAMOUS CORN.

"THE PURE QUILL."

Pride of Nishna. This grand, glorious variety of Yellow Dent Corn was the first variety originated by my father forty-five years ago, when he first settled in southwestern Iowa on a farm, long before we engaged in the seed business, and was the first Yellow Corn introduced by us twenty-nine years ago, when we began the seed business. At that time, in making selection of ears for photographic illustration, we did not have in mind present-day ideas of some so-called seed corn specialists, but simply went to our seed house and selected out ears, just common ears of medium size that fairly represented variations of type and character. Every one knows that about all human beings look somewhat alike, but seldom are there any two that look so nearly alike but what you can distinguish one from the other. The same rule applies to ears of corn, and out of the hundreds and thousands of bushels we have grown and handled we do not remember to have found two ears of corn when laid side by side but what we could find a difference somewhere. In making selection, however, for the above illustration of ears we have tried to match them up as nearly as we could, but when you look upon a beautiful illustration like the above don't be carried away with the idea that every ear of corn you get or that you grow from it is going to be just like the picture you see, but from a field of this corn you can select plenty of ears just as good, fine and as near perfect as they represent, and by saving and planting them in an isolated plot for seed and watching them closely, keeping a record of the performances of each ear with the results, and cutting out all barren, weak and sickly stalks before they begin to shed and scatter their pollen, saving the best and most perfect ears for seed, you will then have begun to improve your yields the same as we did forty-five years ago, when we began the improvement of this corn.

During the past twenty-nine years we have sold and sent out no less than a million bushels of this variety for seed—over seventy thousand bushels, wholesale and retail in 1912, making shipments to forty-two of the forty-eight states of this Union, including every county in Iowa, Illinois, Missouri, Indiana and Ohio, and every county in Nebraska and Kansas where corn is grown, and everywhere it has proven a great success and a tremendous yielder and top-notch, always maturing in 100 days in the North and in ninety days in the South.

We fully recommend this variety for any county in the states of Iowa, Illinois, southern Wisconsin, Michigan and New York; also any part of Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia, and from there south to the coast. It is a splendid ensilage corn for states and localities further north than those mentioned.

While this corn, owing to its great vigor and vitality, does well on poor, thin, sandy soil or old land, it, like other varieties, does best on strong, rich corn land. It is here that it attains its highest perfection and produces the heaviest yields, often making ninety to 100 bushels per acre.

If you are a feeder you will find no corn that contains more nutritious fattening qualities than "Pride of Nishna." If you market your crop you will not find any variety that will give more bushels of good, sound, solid, well-matured corn per acre. No corn grower will make any mistake if he plants his entire crop to "Ratekin's Pride of Nishna." We know whereof we speak when we give you this advice.

DESCRIPTION: The stalks grow from 8 to 12 feet high, dependent on the land—hill or bottom ground—stalks strong and robust, very leafy, broad blades and plenty of them, making an excellent fodder or ensilage corn. Roots almost equal to that of sorghum, always resisting wind and storm and standing up well. Ears uniform in size and shape, cylindrical from butt to tip, running from 9 to 12 inches long and 7 to 8 inches in circumference, containing from 16 to 20 rows of deep kernels solidly set on a medium small red cob, shelling 86 to 88 per cent grains and often even more. A wagon load of this corn weighs out two to four bushels more than ordinary varieties of corn, thus proving its solidity. It is a golden yellow, and a big crib full of it is a beautiful sight to behold. Its potency or power to reproduce is so great that neither dry or wet weather influences its growth and maturity, as does many other sorts. By long and continued selection the barren, weak and sickly stalks have been eliminated, which has materially increased its yielding qualities. It is the earliest maturing large eared yellow corn known or grown, always making itself safely and soundly beyond danger of frost in from ninety to 100 days' good corn weather. Our word for it, it will please you in every respect.

PRICE: Postpaid, by mail, sample ear, 25c; 1 lb., 25c; 3 lbs., 60c; 7 lbs. (will plant one acre), \$1.00; by freight or express at purchaser's expense, peck, 60c; half bu., 90c; 1 bu. to 4 bu., \$1.75; \$10 bu. or over, \$1.60 per bushel. Bags free f. o. b. Shenandoah. If wanted in ear, crated, add 75c per bushel to above prices. (Five bushel lots and over at ten bushel prices).

Ratekin's Pride of Nishna

WHAT THE PEOPLE SAY.



Photo of "Ratekin's Pride of Nishna."

Sixty-five bushels per acre. Grown in Hunt County, Texas in 1911. Drouthiest season in fifty years. No other corn made above ten bushels per acre.

Hunt County, Texas, Jan. 10th, 1912.

Ratekin's Seed House:

Gentlemen: I have not received your 1912 Seed Catalogue. Please send one to me by return mail.

With regard to the seed corn, three bushels "PRIDE OF NISHNA," I got from you last spring, would say I perhaps grew the best crop in Hunt, Fannin, Collins or Grayson counties, the best corn counties in Texas. We have had a series of dry seasons in Texas for three years, culminating in a general burn-out last year. Conditions for the preparation of ground were never better, because we had no rain. I plowed my ground early and continued to work it thoroughly until March 1st—meantime sent to you for my seed. It came finer than silk, arriving March 1st, and I planted next day. As a result we had practically no rain during the corn growing season, BUT I GOT SIXTY-FIVE BUSHELS PER ACRE FROM MY ENTIRE CROP OF TWENTY ACRES. Am inclosing photograph of a few ears. It all averaged up with this. Sure it is drouth-proof.

I want some Diamond Joe this year. Send catalogue at once. Truly yours,

JOHN A. ARNOLD.

Unionville, Mo., March 13, 1912.

Gentlemen: Enclosed find money order for garden seeds. I sent to you a year ago for your Pride of Nishna Seed Corn, and while it was very dry here and most of the corn failed entirely I obtained a yield of fifty-five bushels of corn to the acre and got the best crop in this neighborhood.

Very truly yours,

FRANK E. BILLS.

Blue Earth, Minn., Feb. 3, 1912.

Please send me a copy of your catalogue. I am wanting some seed corn. I sent two years ago for some of your Pride of Nishna, and found it to be an excellent variety and well adapted to this country. It made good and matured safely and sound before frost. Let me hear from you by return mail and oblige, yours truly,

JOHN FRANKE.

Glasgow, Mo., Jan. 20th, 1912.

Please send us a copy of your 1912 seed catalogue and the following samples of seeds. Some years ago we ordered some Yellow Dent Seed Corn from you and have found it one of the best varieties for this locality ever introduced here. From our crop last year, 1911, we entered the corn contest at the Great Corn Show at Columbia, Mo., and was awarded FIRST PRIZE on the product in sharp competition for best exhibit. Very truly yours,

THIES BROS.

Pride of Nishna matured soundly. Planted May 20th. Dry and sound October 10th. Made seventy-seven bushels per acre.

JAMES CARPENTER, Lyon County, Iowa.

Pride of Nishna, planted May 19th, matured soundly September 1st. Best and largest yield I ever raised.

E. C. BEEBE, McHenry County, Ill.

Pride of Nishna I got from you is fine. Best crop I ever raised. Made average yield of seventy-two bushels per acre.

J. R. SHEARON, Union County, Neb.

Pride of Nishna and Iowa Silver Mine are the finest corn in this country. Estimated yield by everybody ninety to 100 bushels per acre.

MRS. L. E. WEBSTER, Tama County, Iowa.

Pride of Nishna and Silver Mine ordered from you last spring done fine and matured soundly before frost. Pride of Nishna made yield of seventy-five bushels per acre, and think Silver Mine equally as good.

O. J. LUND, Rock County, Wis.

Seed corn got from you proved all right, first-class. Planted May 19th; cultivated shallow four times; made splendid crop; well matured.

WM. SAXE, Saunk County, Wis.

Found the ten bushels of seed corn, Pride of Nishna and Silver Mine, got from you last spring first-class. Best crop I ever had. Made around 100 bushels per acre, sound and well matured.

C. H. ARMAN, Lancaster County, Neb.

Pride of Nishna planted May 25th. Character and quality fine. Matured ready for cribbing October 10th. Yield seventy-two bushels per acre.

M. F. OLDFIELD, Downer Grove, Ill.

Pride of Nishna got from you made me seventy-four bushels per acre—twenty bushels better than any of my other sorts.

S. L. BOYD, Lucas County, Iowa.

Pride of Nishna corn got from you made fine stand. Soundest, solidest corn I have. Made an average yield of seventy-four bushels per acre.

A. MANSFIELD, Harrison County, Iowa.

Have received catalogue and talked with my neighbor, Mr. Huggins, who planted your Pride of Nishna last year. He was well pleased. Inclosed find check for ten bushels of this seed corn.

P. M. GRUBB, Ellsworth County, Kan.

Seed corn purchased from you proved highly satisfactory, and am under many obligations for promptness in filling my order. Have a fine stand. Will want more seed another year.

D. DOOL, Republic County, Kan.

Had splendid luck and good stand of corn from the fifty bushels of Pride of Nishna I got from you. Want about a thousand pounds of rape seed, and prefer buying from you if you can make me equal prices with others.

P. JANSEN & SON, Jansen, Neb.

I have been planting your Pride of Nishna for several years, and always found it O. K. Also other seeds ordered of you.

WM. FENTON, Washington County, Kan.

Lake View, Ark., Oct. 18th.

I have planted and grown the Ratekin Seed Corn for the past four or five years, and can say I am very much pleased with it. Send price list and catalogue as soon as out. Truly yours,

C. E. TONEY.

Planter and Plantation Supplies.

Moreland, La., Oct. 23, 1909.

I am in the mercantile business, although I plant corn every year, and want to say the seed corn I purchased from you last spring gave better results and satisfaction than any corn I ever planted. Very truly yours,

M. H. TITUS.

Neshoba, County, Miss., Aug. 8.

Gentlemen: I wish to thank you and say that your seed corn is all O. K., much better than I was expecting. You make no mistake in recommending your corn for the South, as it cannot be equaled. Your corn will make 25 per cent more than our native sorts grown here. Very truly,

M. C. HOWINGTON.

Lamar County, Ala., Aug. 12.

Gentlemen: The seed corn I purchased from you has made fine corn. I think it will make fully forty-five bushels to the acre; would not get along without your seed corn for ten times what it cost. Very truly,

W. H. HARPER.

Marianna, Ark., June 24th, 1912.

I am well pleased with Pride of Nishna Seed Corn received a few days ago. Inclosed find \$6.00, for which ship me Ratekin's Gold Standard 90-day corn. I want something that will get there quick. The season is short. Rush.

Truly yours, J. M. BUSH.

Wallace's Favorite

The Giant White Corn of Iowa.



We place this superior variety of corn before our customers for the fifth year with the renewed assurance that experience everywhere has demonstrated all we have ever claimed for it, namely, that this new variety of big white corn has proven one of the best there is grown and is up to the high standard of all our introductions.

In our twenty-nine consecutive years' experience in growing and sending out seed corn there has been no season but what we have had scores and hundreds of samples sent to us from about everywhere with request that we try them out in our experimental grounds. We wish here to say that we greatly appreciate these favors, although it is utterly impossible to make a fair trial of all them, but each year we try out many sorts, for it has been our aim from the time we engaged in the growing of seed corn to find, grow and handle only the best varieties, and if there is anything better than we grow, or which there is a demand for we want to find it out and obtain it.

In Wallace's Favorite we have found a very superior variety of corn and one that has given remarkable uniform good results everywhere it has been tried or tested. While we do not claim for it that it will make two, three or four hundred bushels per acre, as is claimed by certain seedsmen for some of their corn, we do know it can be relied upon to yield as many bushels of good, sound, solid, well-matured corn per acre inside of 110 to 120 days as any variety of corn to be found in the world, and if planted on good, strong ground will yield from ninety to 125 bushels per acre, and even more under perfect conditions.

DESCRIPTION: The stalk is large, strong and robust, usually growing from 8 to 10 feet high, with long, broad leaves extending from joints, which are close together and always producing one to three ears to the stalk, running from 8 to 12 inches long, with 16 to 22 rows of very deep-set grains on a pure white cob, and is one of the clearest white varieties grown. This corn has proven a prize winner wherever planted, as it is a tremendous yielder. Just think of a field of corn laden down with an average of two good ears to the stalk. Surely this corn will not disappoint your best expectations, and we want every farmer who plants corn the coming season to try it, no matter where you live—east, west, north or south. It is not only good for the grain it grows, but one of the best combination varieties for grain, fodder and ensilage purposes in existence, and for a genuine all purpose corn it will surely please you.

PRICE: 1 lb., 25c; 3 lbs., 75c; 7 lbs. (enough to plant an acre), \$1.25, postage or express prepaid to any point in the United States. By freight or express at purchaser's expense: Peck, \$1.00; ½ bu., \$1.75; 1 bu., \$3.25; 2 bu., \$6.25; 5 bu. and over, \$3.00 per bushel. Bags free, f. o. b. Shenandoah.

Marshall County, Iowa, Dec. 1st, 1911.

Gentlemen: I am pleased to say that the seed corn, Wallace's Favorite Giant White, that I purchased from you last spring has done well and proven all you claimed for it. The seed came in good condition. I found it well graded for the planter. It grew almost to a grain, making an excellent stand and the best crop I ever grew. It ripened early and was out of the way of frost by September 5th, and has made me an average yield of 89 bushels per acre, weighed out at 75 pounds per bushel as it came back from the field to the crib.

FRANK G. CUNNINGHAM.

Jo Davis County, Illinois, Nov. 20th, 1911.

Gentlemen: Wallace's Giant White has proven a winner for me. From the two bushels of seed I got from you last spring I planted fourteen acres of sod ground and have just finished husking it, and I am pleased to tell you it made me a little over eighty bushels per acre.

Very truly yours,
JAMES M. KENT.

McClain County, Okla., Nov. 1st, 1911.

Gentlemen: Replying to your inquiry about results from the seed corn I got from you last spring, Wallace's Favorite Giant White, will say we have had a very dry season here and much of the corn was badly hurt and injured from drouth, but Wallace's Favorite proved to be the almost drouth-proof, and I had the best corn I have seen anywhere in this part of the state. It's sure the corn for this country, and for dry weather everywhere.

Yours truly,
J. B. MULLIN.

Jefferson Parish, La., August 20th, 1912.

Mr. J. W. Ratekin, Mgr. Ratekin's Seed House.

Dear Sir: Replying to your letter of recent date in regard to seed corn bought from you last spring would say I got the six bushels Diamond Joe's Big White, six bushels Wallace's Favorite and three bushels your Iowa Silver Mine. It was all planted 21st, 22d and 23d February. It came up quickly, grew off fast, done better to come to maturity a month ahead of our native sorts; about May 15th was in good roasting ear. This was earlier and quicker than any corn I have ever planted here, and I have been growing corn for the past sixteen years. I am not able to tell you the yield it made per acre, as I picked and sold all of it in the roasting ear, but it all made remarkable yields. Diamond Joe's Big White taking the lead. It is the earliest big eared corn by far I have ever seen, but Wallace's Favorite and Iowa Silver Mine chased close after it. I shall want a lot of seeds the coming season, and I will remember you with my orders when ready for them. Very truly yours,

DOMINECK PITTARI.

Marion County, Indiana, Nov. 10th, 1911.

Gentlemen: You will remember that I sent to you for four bushels of Wallace's favorite Giant White Seed Corn last spring. Well, I have just finished husking my crop of it and am pleased to say I have never grown as fine crop and as good yield as I obtained from this seed. It made an average of 92 bushels per acre, 75 lbs. per bushel. How is that?

Very truly yours,
JAMES M. SCHUMAKER.

Our stock of this seed is most select, but limited this year, having less than 6,000 bushels. For this reason we hope you will send your order in early and by all means secure some of this splendid variety of corn before our stock is exhausted. If, however, you should not order as early as you ought to, and it is all gone, we will promptly return your money, except you desire to make a second choice or leave it to us to choose for you, in which event we will be guided by your instructions.

Ratekin's Imperial White

Ratekin's Imperial White is a variety regarded with great favor and admiration the country over, especially in the South, where it is grown extensively for main crop, and in the Eastern and New England States, where grown for ensilage and fodder purposes. It is without doubt one of the best varieties for a combination crop for grain fodder and ensilage purposes there is grown or in existence.

We originally obtained the seed of this variety from an old German farmer, who was one of the most successful corn growers in central western Illinois, and we first introduced it twelve years ago, since which time we have grown and sent out thousands of bushels for seed, and everywhere it has proven a great favorite and success.

DESCRIPTION: It is pure white, with red cob—a sign within itself of great vitality; ears run from 9 to 12 inches long, measuring from 7 to 8 inches in circumference; 16 to 24 rows of very deep grains firmly set on a small red cob, as shown by the accompanying illustration, producing two to three good ears to the stalk. The stalks are short and heavy, averaging from 7 to 10 feet in height, with a large amount of foliage. This corn does well anywhere and everywhere, and is especially adapted to old, poor and thin land, and will make a good crop where other sorts fail. It is also especially adapted to the eastern and southern states, and where early drouth and parching hot weather often injures other sorts. It matures safely anywhere in from ninety to 100 days; is very solid and compact. We can heartily recommend this corn to our customers as one of the surest croppers and best yielders we grow, and could print hundreds of testimonials from those who have tried it, if space would permit, all verifying what we have said of this splendid variety of corn.

PRICE: Postage by mail, sample ear, 25c; 1 lb., 25c; 3 lbs., 60c; 7 lbs. (will plant an acre), \$1.00. By freight or express at purchaser's expense: Peck, 60c; half bu., 90c; 1 bu. to 5 bu., \$1.75; 6 bu. to 10 bu. and over, \$1.60 per bushel. If wanted in the ear, crated, add 75c per bushel to above prices. (Five bushel lots at ten bushel prices).

Hickory King

Hickory King is a white variety of field corn which has the largest grains with smallest cob of any corn in existence. The grains are so large and cob so extremely small that when the ear is broken in two pieces a single grain will cover completely the cob section. This corn is of vigorous habits, is a splendid and sure cropper, is especially well suited to light or thin soil, and is a very desirable variety and largely planted in many of the southern states. It, however, does well in all the northern and central western states, but it is not as early to mature as our Imperial White, Diamond Joe's Big White and "Iowa Silver Mine."

PRICE: Postpaid by mail, 1 lb., 25c; 3 lbs., 60c; 7 lbs., \$1.00. By freight or express, at purchaser's expense: Peck, 75c; half bu., \$1.25; 1 bu., \$2.25; 2 bu., \$4.25; 5 bu., and over, \$2.00 per bu. Bags included, f. o. b. cars here.



The Beautiful Nishna Valley of Southwestern Iowa.

WHY WE ARE HERE. This we have partly explained, but supplementary to what I have already said I cannot resist or refrain from giving some further impressions that come to me about our natural facilities. There may be more beautiful valleys than the Valley of the Nishnabotna. Not having traveled all

over the world I do not know, but I have traveled over much of the United States. I have heard travelers who have made the trip around the world and visited about every country on the face of the globe rave over the beauties of rivers and streams in foreign lands. But I did not know whether they were telling the truth or just blowing off, and neither does it make any difference for this occasion.

I do know, and that is all that really concerns this subject, that this is the natural home and greatest corn growing locality to be found in the world; where corn attains its greatest perfection. Owing to this fact corn is the chief product of our farms and farmers. For these reasons, if for nothing else, it's the place where corn has been nurtured and brought to its highest perfection.

The Nishnabotna country is as fertile as the Valley of the Nile, and we have the richest, wealthiest class of farmers here to be found in any place I have even seen. Corn was the foundation of all this wealth, not that they hauled the product to the railroad stations and sold it, but wherever corn is grown in abundance the farmers have a lot of stock, horses, cattle and hogs about them and are thus enabled to get the benefits of all the by-food products out of it, and in lieu of paying freight on ten or twenty carloads of grain from their year's crop it is condensed into beef, pork and fine horses. Thus instead of being ten to twenty cars to pay freight on there is but five or six, as the case may be.

Bayard Taylor, the famous poet, author, journalist and traveler, crossed this part of the country years ago, long before Shenandoah existed or got onto the map, when my father was here, and when this part of Iowa was an unbroken prairie, occupied and inhabited only by Indians, prairie chickens, wolves and deer. Standing upon a hilltop, four miles southwest of where the site of Shenandoah was afterwards located, Mr. Taylor gazed across the Valley of the Nishnabotna River and declared "the landscape the most beautiful his eyes had ever beheld. He called it the garden spot of the world." And so it has proven to be.

J. W. RATEKIN.





Boone County White.

Legal Tender

This is now one of the most prominent varieties of large medium late varieties, and those who have tried it speak very highly of the splendid results obtained from it. It is a very productive corn where seasons will permit of it maturing, and it's no uncommon thing to find ears twelve inches long that weigh from 1 to 1½ pounds each. The stalks grow ten to twelve feet high with very heavy foliage, which makes it valuable fodder corn. Legal Tender has been a great premium taker, and to those who want a large late variety of corn we firmly believe you will find it a most splendid variety and that it will become a permanent fixture on your farm. Under favorable conditions this variety will mature in 115 to 120 days and seems to be well adapted to the central southern states. Our seed stock of this variety is pure bred of inherited stock, and you can depend upon it giving you the best possible results.

PRICE: By mail, postpaid, sample ear, 25c; 1 lb., 25c; 3 lbs., 60c; 7 lbs. (enough to plant one acre), \$1.00. By freight or express, at purchaser's expense: Peck, 50c; ½ bu., 90c; 1 to 5 bu., \$1.75; 6 to 10 bu., \$1.60 per bu. Bags free, f. o. b. here. If wanted in the ear, crated, add 75c per bu.

Ratekin's Improved Calico Corn

This corn is the old fashioned kind, and has always been very popular as a feeding corn, and for many years we have had a great demand for it, especially from stock feeders. So great has been the demand for this excellent feeding corn that we have given greater attention to it the past few years than in former years. Three years ago we found a superior type of this corn, grown by a leading corn breeder in Kentucky, from whom we obtained seed, and since acclimated here in the north has proven a wonder, and without fear of contradiction, we can say we have the very highest and best strain of this corn that can be found anywhere. The strain is of the large eared kind, deep grain and small cob, thus insuring early maturity. The ears run from nine to twelve inches in length and measure seven to eight inches in circumference. It is a combination in color of red, white and yellow stripes. It is full of protein and very rich, stock like it and eat it in preference to other corn. To all those in want of one of the best corns for stock feeding, we can say we are in a position to supply you with the very best of seed.

PRICE: By mail, postpaid, sample ear, 25c; 1 lb., 25c; 3 lbs., 60c; 7 lbs. (will plant an acre), \$1.00. By freight or express: Peck, 50c; ½ bu., 90c; 1 bu. to 5 bu., \$1.75 per bu.; 6 bu to 10 bu. and over, \$1.60 per bu. Bags free, on board cars here. If wanted in the ear, crated, add 75c per bushel to above prices.

From FARM AND RANCH—(Dallas, Texas):

It may be of interest to you to know that although Farm and Ranch has always guaranteed every advertisement in its columns, it has not during the many years you have advertised with us, had a single complaint against your house. In view of the fact that you have done an enormous business in the southwest, it ought to be gratifying to know that while we have heard many complimentary things as to the methods and way you do business, we have never had a single complaint. In view of the large business you have from this section, the above facts are the strongest possible endorsement of your firm. Personally, we hold you and your firm in the highest esteem, and do not hesitate to recommend you to our readers.

Yours very truly, FARM AND RANCH PUB. CO., Frank P. Holland, Pres.

INDIANA FARMER—(Indianapolis, Ind.):

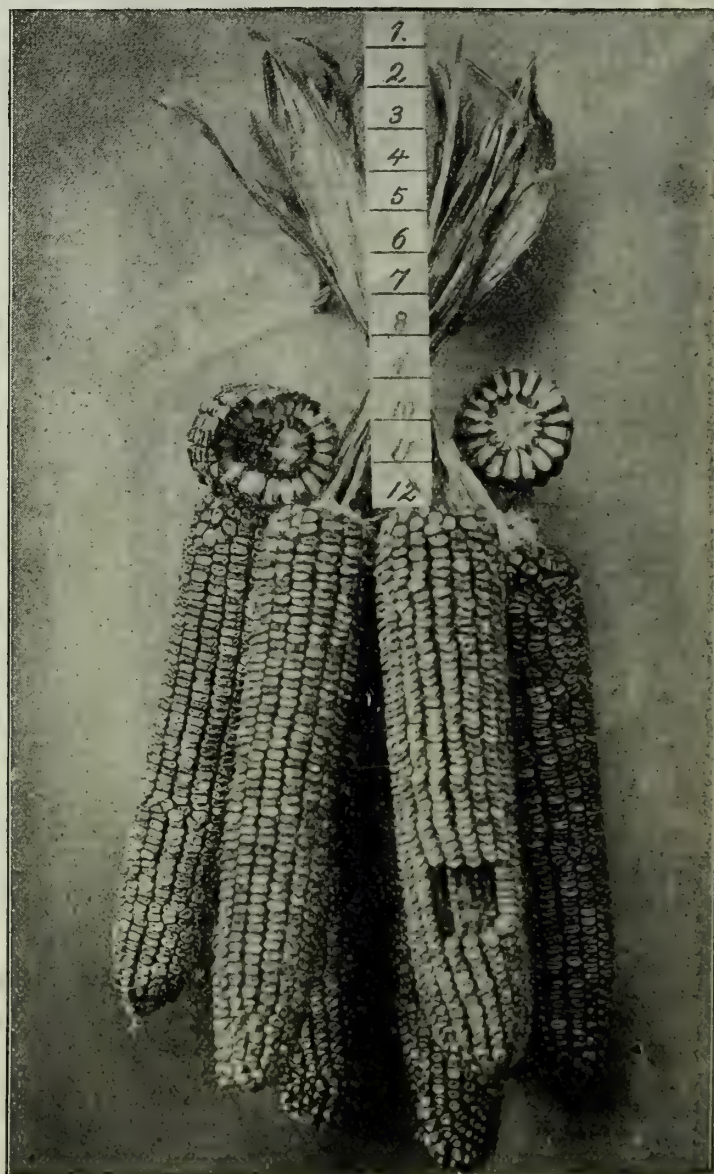
Ratekin's Seed House has become well known to the farmers of the Western Central States. This house has been selling field and garden seeds to our readers for many years past, and with uniform satisfaction to those using them.

INDIANA FARMER CO.

Boone County White

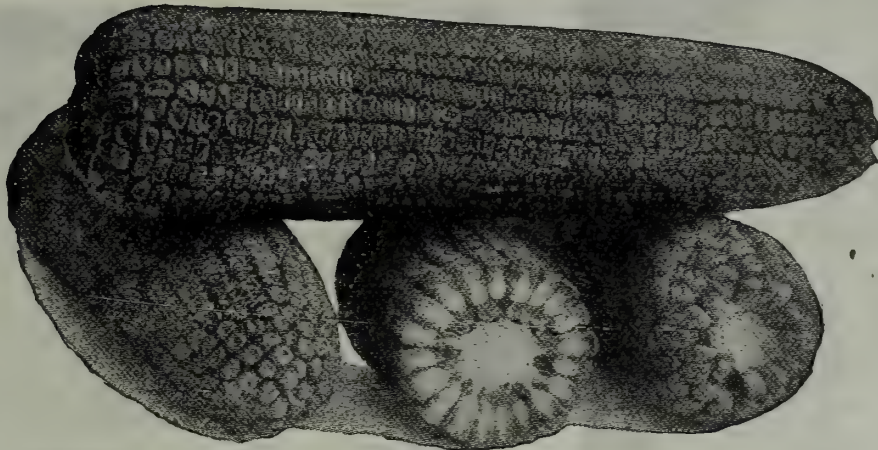
Boone County White, Sometimes listed under the name of Boone County Special, is a highly bred variety of white corn of extra large size, containing a high percentage of oil. It is late maturing, but with long seasons and favorable conditions, it is a splendid yielder. In many places it is a great favorite. The ears run from 8 to 12 inches long, 7½ to 8½ inches in circumference, containing eighteen to twenty-four rows, weighing from twelve to eighteen ounces. The cob is medium large and pure white in color. The ears are quite uniform in size, shape and appearance. The kernels are pearl white, quite rough, very deep, with fine large germ. This variety grows a large stalk from ten to twelve feet high with an abundance of foliage, and like all other white varieties, is the best for old, thin or poor soil. They gather more plant food from the air and less from the soil than does yellow corn. With favorable seasons in localities where it has plenty of time to mature, it is particularly valuable; say the northern half of Indiana, Illinois and Missouri. Matures fully in about 120 days. Our seed stock of this variety was grown from pure, inherited stock and can be relied upon to give the best possible results that can be obtained from this variety.

PRICE: By mail, postpaid, sample ear, 25c; 1 lb., 25c; 3 lbs., 60c; 7 lbs. (enough to plant one acre), \$1.00. By freight or express, at purchasers' expense: Peck, 60c; ½ bu., 90c; 1 to 5 bu., \$1.75; 6 to 10 bu., \$1.60 per bu. Bags free, f. o. b. here. If wanted in the ear, crated, add 75c per bu.



Photograph: (Legal Tender).

Gold Standard Leaming



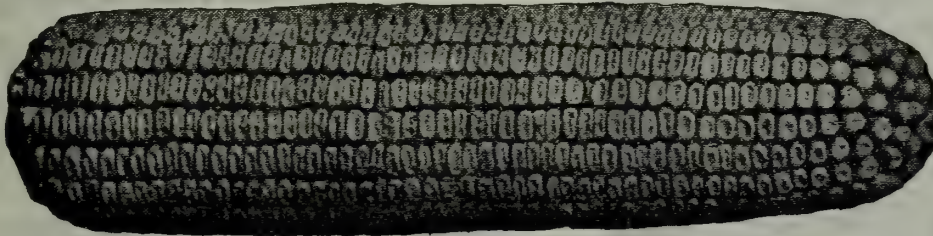
TYPICAL EARS LEAMING.

The Leaming Corn Was first originated by Mr. J. S. Leaming, of Ohio, and has had the reputation for many years as being the purest bred yellow dent corn in existence. The Leaming Corn is known everywhere and by all who have ever tried or become acquainted with it as the stock feeders' friend, and they think there is none better. It is very rich in protein and oil, and thus becomes ideal from a feeder's standpoint. In addition to this, it is grown very extensively in the East New England States, New York, Pennsylvania and Northern Ohio and Indiana; also in Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota and the Dakotas, for its ensilage and fodder purposes of which it makes and gives a very bountiful supply of blades and leaves. It is all we claim for it.

DESCRIPTION: It grows to medium height, from eight to twelve feet, dependent upon ground planted on, hill or bottom land. The ears are uniform and of good size, and usually set from three to four feet from the ground; medium small red cob, husks easily; ears solid and snug; surface quite smooth for dent corn. It is a very productive and an ideal corn. We can fully recommend it to farmers and feeders as a most excellent variety of corn.

PRICE: Postpaid by mail, sample ear, 25c; 1 lb., 25c; 3 lbs., 60c; 7 lbs. (will plant one acre), \$1.00. By freight or express, at purchaser's expense: Peck, 50c; $\frac{1}{2}$ bu., 90c; 1 bu. to 5 bu., \$1.75; 6 to 10 bu. and over, \$1.60 per bushel. Bags free, on board cars here. If wanted in ear, crated, add 75c per bushel to above prices.

**Reid's
Yellow
Dent**



**Reid's
Yellow
Dent**

Reid's Yellow Dent. This is a most excellent variety of yellow dent corn, and is recommended by some as being an early maturing variety, but it is not, although a medium, requiring from 110 to 120 days to mature, dependent upon weather conditions, but can always be relied upon to ripen as far north as the central part of Iowa, and has often matured and produced good crops as far north as the Southern Minnesota line, but to do this requires favorable weather conditions for corn to mature. It is a splendid variety, and owing to its pure breeding and perfect ears, it has won a very large number of premiums and prizes at county institutes, state and national corn shows; this by reason of the ears conforming more closely to and within the limits of score cards in use, by which corn is usually judged and premiums awarded. But it is one of the leading standard varieties and stands among the best all around purpose yellow dent corns grown.

Our stock of this corn is extra choice, having been grown from absolutely pure seed, and we have made careful selection of the most choice ears, so we know our seed cannot fail to please the most particular or critical buyer of seed corn.

DESCRIPTION: It is a handsome yellow color, smooth deep kernel, medium sized ears, very uniform in appearance, rows close together and very compact and of great solidity, and a most beautiful corn; is also a very rich nutritious corn for feeding purposes. You will make no mistake in planting liberally of it anywhere south of the central half of Iowa and that latitude.

PRICE: Postpaid, by mail, sample ear, 25c; 1 lb., 25c; 3 lbs., 60c; 7 lbs. (will plant one acre), \$1.00. By freight or express, at purchaser's expense: Peck, 60c; $\frac{1}{2}$ bu., 90c; 1 bu. to 5 bu., \$1.75; 6 to 10 bu. and over, \$1.60 per bushel. Bags free, on board cars here. If wanted in ear, crated, add 75c per bushel to above prices.

Sullivan County, N. Y., May 7th.—Seed corn, potatoes and nursery stock received all right.—Jno. Schaefer.

Day County, South Dakota, June 1st.—I write to say the seed corn to hand all O. K.—M. A. Bates.

Windser County, Vermont, May 31st.—I received the seeds ordered from you all O. K., which was very satisfactory. Thank you for promptness in hurrying them along.—R. Link.

Rochester, N. Y., Dec. 10th.

Gentlemen: You will remember I sent to you for some of your Gold Standard Leaming Seed Corn last spring and may be after carrying their advertisement for many years we have every reason to believe and certify that our patrons are well satisfied with seeds bought of them and results obtained. We have received many words of commendation, but never a word of complaint.

With best wishes, J. R. RODGERS.

OHIO FARMER—(Cleveland, Ohio):

Ratekin's Seed House:

Gentlemen: It is with much pleasure that we state that during the many years' advertising you have done in our paper we can find record of having received complaint from only one of our many thousands of readers who patronize you, and you at once settled that complaint promptly, and more generously than the complainant had any right to expect. We therefore can honestly endorse your methods of doing business.

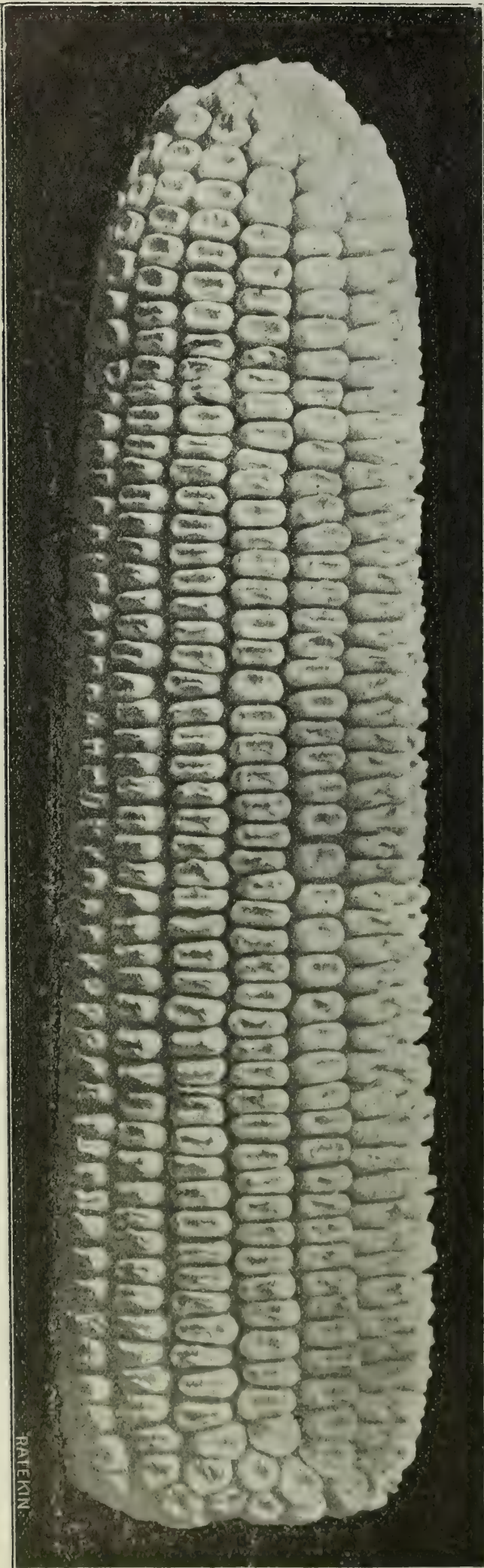
Wishing you the very best success during the coming season, we are, very truly yours,

LAWRENCE PUBLISHING CO., by M. W. Lawrence, President.

NATIONAL FARMER AND STOCK GROWER—(St. Louis, Mo.):

We desire to say that Ratekin's Seed House of Shenandoah, Iowa, stands high as a well-equipped, reliable seed house. After carrying their advertisement for many years we have every reason to believe and certify that our patrons are well satisfied with seeds bought of them and results obtained. We have received many words of commendation, but never a word of complaint.

PHILIP H. HALE, Ed. National Farmer and Stock Grower.



Ratekin's Hackberry Corn.

Ratekin's Regenerated Hackberry Corn

The Hackberry Corn—Its History. This corn was originated in the Southwestern part of Kentucky, Christian County, and by the courtesy of one of our old customers who sent us a few pounds of this corn, three years ago, for testing and experimental purposes on our seed farms, we came into possession of it. The first year we found it a very growthy variety, somewhat later in maturity than our medium and early varieties, but on account of its otherwise excellent qualities we continued growing and acclimating it to a medium early sort, meantime improving and developing it, until now we feel absolutely safe in offering it to the public as one of the very best varieties for feeding purposes, and a variety of medium early and quick maturity, adapted to any latitude south of Des Moines, Iowa, Chicago, Illinois, any part of Indiana and Ohio, except the extreme northern counties, of the two last named states, and from there south, and a variety we can fully recommend as one of the most prolific, high yielding varieties there is grown.

DESCRIPTION: The color variegates from a rich dark red to a flesh color and occasionally a light white cap; grain deep and somewhat hackled; ears somewhat larger than ordinary varieties (big ears) with medium small cob. It is an excellent corn for the central western states, anywhere within the limits we have named, and especially for the southern states.

Our stock of this seed is limited this year, but we want every corn grower who plants or orders seed from us this year to include at least a peck or a bushel of this grand new variety of corn, at least enough to make a fair trial and get a start for another year.

PRICE: Postpaid or express prepaid, one ear, 30c; 3 lbs., 75c; 7 lbs. (enough to plant an acre), \$1.25; freight or express not prepaid, peck, \$1.00; ½ bu., \$1.90; 1 bu. or more, \$3.00 per bu. Bags free, f. o. b. Shenandoah.

Silver King (Wisconsin No. 7).

Silver King Stands at the head of the list in all good varieties of corn adapted to latitude of Northern Iowa, South Dakota and Southern Wisconsin. It has become immensely popular and has really revolutionized corn growing in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

HISTORY: This corn originated in Northern Iowa. Ours was the first seed house to catalogue it. In 1908, the entire acreage of the Wisconsin Experiment Station, 22 acres, gave the very high average of ninety-three bushels of shelled corn per acre. At the National Corn Exposition in 1907, **SILVER KING** took eight straight premiums, and at the show in 1908 and 1909 at Omaha it took practically all the premiums in the Wisconsin class, and at the next show, held at Columbus, Ohio, in February, 1911, did the same thing.

DESCRIPTION: In appearance the corn is a beauty. Ears averaging eight to ten inches, always filled out to the tips, and very uniform in size, and type. The corn is pure white in color with good length kernels set compactly in straight rows. It is a strong grower, early enough to mature as far north as St. Paul, Minnesota, and is especially adapted to resist cool weather. It has a decided double-ear characteristic, one reason for its fine yield records.

VALUE: We feel that we can hardly rate the value of this corn too high. It gets ripe and it produces the yield. Professor Moore of Wisconsin Experiment Station says, "**PUSH IT HARD—IT WILL STAND IT.**" Hundreds of the leading farmers of Minnesota and Wisconsin are ready to swear by **SILVER KING**.

PRICES: Sample ear, postpaid, 25c; 1 lb., postpaid, 25c; 3 lbs., 70c; 7 lbs. (enough to plant one acre), \$1.25; peck, 75c; ½ bu., \$1.40; 1 bu., \$2.50; 2 bu., \$4.50; 5 bu. and upwards, \$2.20 per bu. Bags included, f. o. b. Shenandoah.

UTAH AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE (Experimental Station).

Logan, Utah, Jan. 4th.

It gives me great pleasure to report the yield of seed corn donated by you last year as follows: The Diamond Joe's Big White yielded eighty-nine and six-tenths bushels per acre; Queen of Nishna yielded seventy-four and two-tenths bushels. Both of these varieties of corn are good yielders here, yielding also a large quantity of fodder per acre. I should be pleased to have you send me for experimental purposes some Speltz or Emmer; also a few pounds of Ratekin's Giant Shenandoah Fodder Corn and a few pounds of Red Cob Fodder Corn.

Very truly,

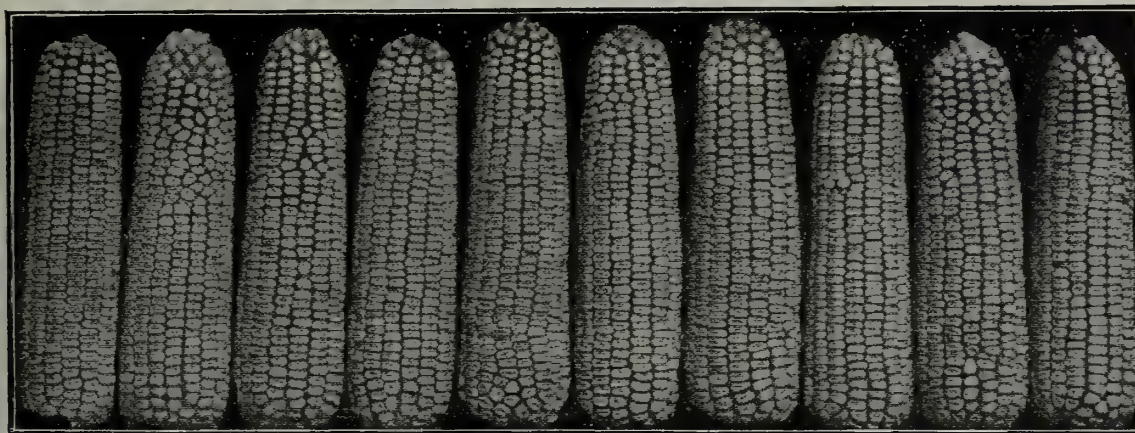
J. C. HOGENSON, Agronomist.

Cove, Union County, Oregon, Jan. 27th.

You will no doubt be pleased to know that I took first prize at our recent fair and corn show from crop grown from seed I sent to you for. The prize ear measured fifteen inches in length. Pretty good corn for Oregon, isn't it? Very truly yours,

J. M. RUNDALL.

Iowa Gold Mine



The Earliest to Mature; the Purest Yellow; the Deepest Grain; the Best Medium Early; Between the Standard Field Varieties and Extra Early Sorts.

The Iowa Gold Mine

Corn is more widely known than any other variety grown and has made the state of Iowa famous as the mother of this wonderful Early variety of yellow corn. It is listed by all dealers and planted in every state in the Union and in Central Europe, South America, South Africa, Austria; everywhere that corn is planted or grown.

DESCRIPTION: It is a medium early, between the leading and best standard field varieties, such as we grow for 100 bushel crops in the central corn belt of the north and west, and the extra early sorts that mature in eighty to ninety days in the extreme northern corn growing boundaries, and also for late planting and replanting, where other sorts have failed or been destroyed from one cause or another. **GOLD MINE IS A FAVORITE** in its class with every farmer who has ever planted it, ripening a few days later than Pride of North, or making itself in about ninety days. Ears are not large, but medium in size and very symmetrical; color a bright golden yellow, as yellow as gold itself; grain is deep, cob small, and therefore dries out early and quickly. Seventy pounds in the ear will shell out sixty-two to sixty-three pounds of shelled corn, leaving but seven to eight pounds for cob. It is very free from barren stalks; every stalk bears from one to two good ears, running from eight to ten inches long, thus is a very heavy yielder for a medium between extra early and late varieties. The above are honest, fair descriptions, and I am sure this corn will not disappoint your best expectations.

PRICE FOR IOWA GOLD MINE: One ear, 25c; 1 lb., 25c; 3 lbs., 60c; 7 lbs. (enough to plant one acre), \$1.00, postpaid or express prepaid to any point in the United States. By freight or express, at purchaser's expense: Peck, 60c; ½ bu., \$1.00; 1 bu., \$1.75; 5 bu. or more, \$1.60. Bags free, f. o. b. here.

Saint Charles White.

This excellent variety of white corn was originated in St. Charles County, Missouri, and is very popular with a large number of our customers in Missouri, and makes well in Southern Iowa. In fact, our Missouri customers with whom this is such a favorite claim to get very much better results from our Iowa grown seed than from their Missouri grown seed, and that it matures there from ten to fifteen days earlier than home grown sorts of the same variety.

DESCRIPTION: The St. Charles White is a very handsome pure variety of white corn set on a red cob, and this corn appears to make a finer and better grade for milling purposes and for corn meal than almost any other sort. The ears are usually eight to ten inches long, sixteen to eighteen rows of deep, broad kernels, the upper corners of the kernels being rounding. The stalk grows from eight to ten and twelve feet high, dependent upon the land upon which it is planted, the lowlands and bottom producing the taller stalks; the stalk growing broad succulent blades, thus making it a very desirable corn for general crop purposes; for grain, fodder or for ensilage purposes. Our customers in the South, North, East and West are greatly in favor with this excellent variety of corn. In the South for the grain crop it produces and in the East, West and North for the fodder and ensilage it produces. **Price same as Calico Corn.**

PRICE: Postage by mail, sample ear, 35c; 1 lb., 25c; 3 lbs., 60c; 7 lbs. (will plant one acre), \$1.00; freight or express at purchaser's expense: Peck, 50c; ½ bu., 90c; 1 bu. to 5 bu., \$1.75; 6 to 10 bu. and over, \$1.60 per bu. Bags free on board cars here. If wanted in ear, crated, add 75c per bushel to above prices.

Funk's Yellow Dent.

Our stock of this variety was grown from seed purchased direct from the Funk farms, which variety has been advertised as a most excellent variety of yellow corn. They claim the average yield of this corn for the past four or five years has been upward of 100 bushels per acre. They also claim it to be an improvement over Reid's Yellow Dent, and has the same general characteristics. The ears are from eight to eleven inches long, cylindrical in shape from butt to tip, with sixteen to twenty rows on small red cob. The kernels are medium rough. The originators claim this variety to be a vigorous grower; makes medium heavy foliage and a good combination corn for grain and ensilage purposes.

PRICE: By mail, postpaid: Sample ear, 25c; 1 lb., 25c; 3 lbs., 60c; 7 lbs. (will plant an acre), \$1.00. By freight or express: Peck, 50c; ½ bu., 90c; 1 to 5 bu., \$1.75 per bu.; 6 to 10 bu. and over, \$1.60 per bu. Bags free on board cars here. If wanted in the ear, crated, add 75c per bushel to above prices.

GOOD SEEDS.

By good seed we mean that which has been handled so that all of its germinating power has been preserved, aided by a constitutional vigor implanted in the grain by a judicious selection, cultivation and environment that produces a pure or improved variety. This may be done by the common farmer, but is generally best done by the professional seed grower. He generally knows better how to do this, and has the proper facilities for doing the work. This is a business itself. What is said in this book as to seed corn will apply to all farm seeds and farm crops.

Midland County, Texas.—All of both farm and garden seeds I got from you have proven good and given splendid results.
T. H. ALSTON.

Monroe County, Ga.—I certainly was well pleased with results from **DIAMOND JOE'S BIG WHITE** got from you. Send me sample Speltz.
CLARENCE WALDRUP.

Tarrant County Texas.—Seed corn arrived to day in good condition. Found it very fine. Am well pleased.
TAYLOR BLEVINS.

Marengo County, Ala.—I found your "**QUEEN OF NISH-NA**" the best and most desirable corn for early feeding that I have ever seen. I begun feeding this corn last season on third day of June.
S. W. COMPTON.

PRAIRIE FARMER—(Chicago, Illinois):

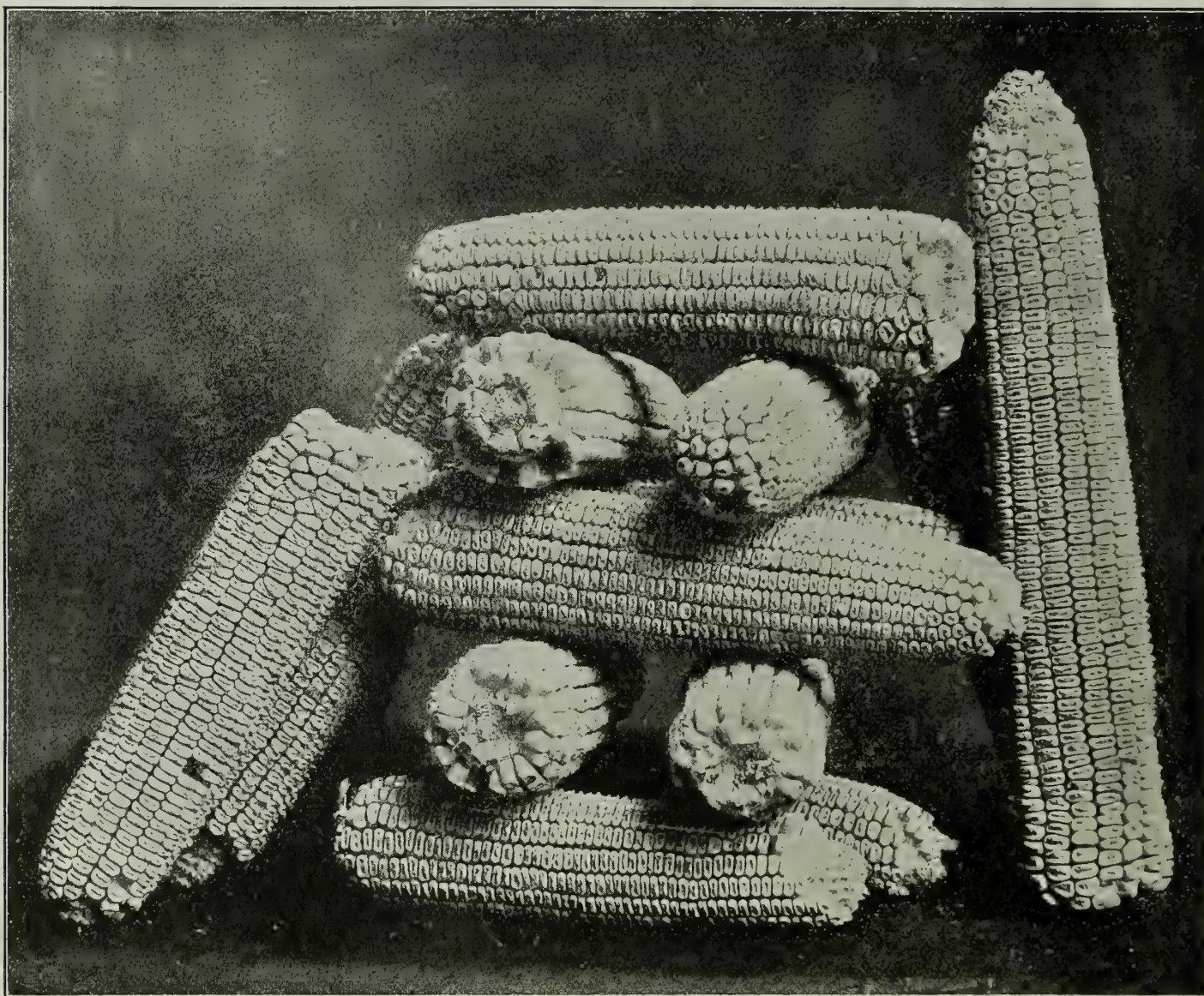
We are pleased to have the opportunity to say that for many years we have watched with a lot of interest the splendid growth of your seed corn business. During this time you have supplied many thousands of our subscribers with seeds, and that you have treated them well and given them good value is evident from the fact that in all these years we have never received a single complaint. It is always a pleasure, therefore, to recommend you to our readers, and we hope when you have cast your accounts for this season you will find such treatment of customers has won its reward in making this the largest and most profitable season you have ever had. Thanking you for past favors, and hoping in future we may be able to serve you further, we remain very truly yours,
PRAIRIE FARMER, A. J. Sullivan, Adv. Mgr.

From KANSAS FARMER—(Topeka, Kansas):

Gentlemen: We are pleased to say that for twenty years the Kansas Farmer has been favored with your seed advertising, and we are gratified to state to you that during this time we have never had a single complaint. This tells a significant story in your behalf. Evidently your system and methods of doing business are thoroughly up-to-date and satisfactory to all concerned. Yours very truly,
KANSAS FARMER PUBLISHING CO.

Extra Early Varieties

For Northern or Late Planting.



RATEKIN'S GOLD STANDARD—90 DAY CORN.

A Great Corn for Short Seasons. Beats Early Drouth and Frost.

It is the early maturing Yellow Dent Corn you have been looking for. The stalks grow from seven to ten feet high, depending on the land it is planted on; sets ears about three to $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet from the ground; ears run from eight to ten inches long, with sixteen to twenty rows, very deep grains set on a small red cob, and shells out sixty to sixty-four pounds per seventy pounds of ears. It is a pure bred corn; every stalk producing at least one good ear and many of them two, and yields from forty to seventy-five bushels per acre on good land under normal conditions, and will be ready to husk and crib for feeding and market fully three weeks ahead of ordinary varieties. We can conscientiously recommend this corn as the acme of perfection in early maturing and as a wonderful yielder, and we cannot too strongly urge every farmer to plant liberally of it, for an early, quick maturing corn where late or replanting is necessitated from any cause.

We have received reports from fully thirty per cent of those who planted of it last season and without exception and from everywhere comes the most glowing accounts of the performance of this variety, both in early maturity and tremendous yields. We can fully recommend it to corn growers everywhere, and especially where the seasons are short, or where wanted for early feed or for late planting. It will make a good crop if planted anywhere south of central Iowa any time before June 25th to 30th. From every point, including productiveness, yield and early maturity, depth of grain, solidity of ear and smallness of cob, our new **GOLD STANDARD** stands ahead of them all. Don't wait, but send your order in now. It will cost you no more, if as much, as to send later; then by getting your seed early you have it at hand when you are ready to plant.

PRICE: 1 lb., 25c; 1 ear, 25c; 3 lbs., 65c; 7 lbs. (enough to plant an acre of ground), \$1.25; postpaid or sent by express, prepaid to any point in the United States. By freight or express at purchaser's expense: Peck, \$1.00; $\frac{1}{2}$ bu., \$1.75; bu., \$3.00; 5 bu. and over, \$2.50; bags included, f. o. b. here. If wanted in the ear, crated, add 75c per bushel to foregoing prices.

WISCONSIN FARMER—(Madison, Wisconsin):

Ratekin's Seed House of Shenandoah, Iowa, has become exceedingly well known by a great many of our readers, and this acquaintance begun in a business venture involving the purchase of some kind of seeds, has ripened into real friendship. This well known firm has made the growing of pure bred seed corn a specialty for over twenty-nine years, growing thousands of acres each year under special contract with the farmers of their locality. Shenandoah is located in one of the best seed corn districts in the United States, and by supplying the best seed and the best of varieties the Ratekin Seed House has built up a wonderful business, extending to every state in the Union. On their books they have the names of thousands of good farmers who have given them the strongest kind of endorsement.

Otter Tail County, Minn.

Gentlemen: Replying to your inquiry of recent date, would say the Gold Standard 90-day corn I ordered from you was planted May 25th and was safely out of the way of frost by August 25. As to yield it made from ten to twenty bushels better per acre than any our best native sorts under same conditions. Very truly yours,

J. C. FRICK.

Extra Early Varieties

For Northern or Late Planting.



The Earliest, Hardest, Most Productive Ninety-Day Corn Grown.

QUEEN OF NISHNA.

DESCRIPTION: The ears ordinarily run from 7 to 10 inches long, with 16 to 20 rows of solid, compact grains solidly set on a small red cob. The stalks grow from 7 to 10 feet high, dependent upon the ground where planted, and under ordinary conditions makes a yield of from forty to sixty bushels per acre. Each year we sell thousands of bushels of this variety all over the Dakotas, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan and throughout New York and the New England States. In fact, we sell this corn everywhere where corn is grown. In some states it is planted for general crop; in others for early feed, and still in others it is used for late planting or replanting where other sorts have failed from one cause and another. We feel that we cannot recommend this corn too highly for all the purposes we have named, and feel sure that no farmer who plants corn will make any mistake in planting at least a part of his crop to this excellent variety of early corn.

PRICE: Sample ear, 25c; 1 lb., 25c; 3 lbs., 50c; 7 lbs., \$1.00; postpaid or prepaid by express to any point in the United States. By freight or express at purchaser's expense: Peck, 60c; half bu., \$1.10; 1 bu., \$2.00; 10 bu. and over, \$1.90. Bags free f. o. b. here.

THE ALASKA-NORTHWESTERN DENT.

This corn is in a class of its own; is a Yellow Dent. It was introduced by us five years ago throughout North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin and northern Michigan; also in the New England States, where the season for corn is short; everywhere our customers have been greatly pleased and loud in its praise. Like all other varieties of corn it gives best results on good, strong ground. Many of our customers have grown as high as **SEVENTY-FIVE BUSHELS PER ACRE** from it. Usually, however, it yields from forty to fifty bushels on ordinary corn ground and matures beyond danger of frost within eighty days. Under ordinary conditions it grows to the height to six to eight feet; average distance of ears from ground two feet and a half. The ears run from 7 to 10 inches long, very deep grain set on a small cob, 14 to 18 rows on cob, and so sound you can plant very early and depend on 99 to 100 per cent germinating good and strong. One bushel will plant seven acres of ground. Our supply of this seed is limited. You will do well to order early.

PRICE: Sample ear, 25c; 1 lb., 25c; 3 lbs., 65c; 7 lbs., \$1.25, postpaid or express charges prepaid to any point in the United States. By freight or express at purchaser's expense: Peck, \$1.00; half bushel, \$1.75; 1 bushel, \$3.25; 5 bushels and over, \$3.00 per bushel. Bags free f. o. b. here.

Ratekin's Dakota Bloody Butcher.

This is another excellent variety of extra early maturing corn, and is a great favorite and extensively grown in North and South Dakota, Minnesota and Northern Wisconsin and Michigan, as well as other states of high altitude and where the seasons are short and frost may be expected early. It is next to our Queen of Nishna as a large yielder among the early sorts, always making itself safely in from eighty to ninety days, even in the far Northern States. Besides this it is a variety of great tenacity to resist and withstand unfavorable conditions, such as extreme wet or dry, and will do better on old, poor or thin soil than almost any other sort.

DESCRIPTION: The ears ordinarily run from 8 to 12 inches long, with 12 to 16 rows of solid, compact grains of a reddish or flesh color, being almost round and of a very nutritious character for feeding corn; one bushel going almost as far as 1½ bushels of ordinary varieties. It usually makes a yield of from forty to fifty bushels per acre on ordinary land under normal conditions, and we can fully recommend it for planting everywhere that quick maturing varieties are required.

PRICE: Sample ear, 25c; 1 lb., 25c; 3 lbs., 60c; 7 lbs., \$1.00, postpaid or prepaid by express to any point in the United States. By freight or express at purchaser's expense: Peck, 60c; half bushel, \$1.10; 1 bushel, \$2.00; 5 bushels and over, \$1.90. Bags free f. o. b. here.

Pride of The North.

This variety of early corn was originated by Mr. A. L. Goddard of Kossuth County, Iowa (one of the extreme northern counties of Iowa), about twenty-five years ago, and at once sprang into great prominence as the earliest of all Yellow Dent corns, and is a great favorite in the extreme Northern States. It is a very pure and handsome Yellow Dent Corn. The ears running from 7 to 9 inches long, with small cob and kernels; ears usually containing from 12 to 16 rows; 70 lbs. ears will shell out 62 to 64 lbs.; will ripen and mature safely anywhere in ninety days; can be planted as late as June 25th to 30th, and make itself by September 10th. Good soil is capable of growing four to six stalks to the hill, and many stalks have two ears and usually produces from forty to fifty bushels good, sound corn per acre.

PRICE: One lb., 25c; 3 lbs., 60c; 7 lbs. (will plant one acre), \$1.00, postpaid. By freight or express: Peck, 75c; half bushel, \$1.25; 1 bushel, \$2.00; 5 bushels or more, \$1.90 per bushel. Bags free on board cars here.

Boys, Look Here—Money in Pop Corn.

WHITE RICE, widely cultivated and used more than any other sorts. Short ears, with four to six to stalks, with long, pointed kernels. Very productive.

QUEEN'S GOLDEN, the largest sort. Stalks grow five to six feet high, producing two or three large ears each. Pops perfectly white. Single kernels expand to one inch across.

Very often there is good money in "little things" which, because they are small, people are apt to overlook. Popcorn is one of these.

The yield of ear corn to the acre is equal to any of the larger varieties, as it can be planted much closer than larger varieties of corn.

Boys or girls can grow an acre or two of popcorn and dispose of the product to their neighbors or to the nearest merchant. Why not turn it over to the children? It will afford them pleasure and profit.

Plant at the rate of six to eight quarts to the acre. We have a choice lot of this popcorn carefully chosen for seed purposes.

PRICES: Pkt., 5 cts.; lb., 20 cts., postpaid. By express or freight at purchaser's expense: Lb., 10 cts.; 20 lbs., \$1.50; 100 lbs., \$6.00.

FARMERS' TRIBUNE—(Sioux City, Iowa):

We have carried your advertisement for a good many years, and are pleased to say in this connection that we have yet to receive the first complaint from any reader who has dealt with you. The fact that you were pioneers in the growing and breeding of improved varieties of seed corn has given you prestige, and this opinion is the main reason why your business has grown so rapidly in recent years. Very truly yours,

JOHN THOMPSON, Editor.

(Prices Subject to Changes and Fluctuations of Market).

Extra Early Flint Seed Corn



DIBBLE'S MAMMOTH YELLOW FLINT.

(Our stock of Flint Corn is all shelled).

Every year from June 1st to September 1st we devote our time looking after our contract growers and investigating different sections of the country to find the best varieties adapted to the various climatic conditions. While in northern New York some years ago on an inspecting tour we found a Flint Corn known all over northern New York and the New England States as "DIBBLE'S MAMMOTH YELLOW FLINT," and everywhere was extolled as the most wonderful of all Flint varieties. So favorably impressed were we from what farmers told us we went directly to the originator, Mr. Dibble, and procured a supply of seed from his private stock for our planting purposes. Since then we have been growing and selling it with most satisfactory results all over the Dakotas, Minnesota, Northern Wisconsin, Michigan, New York and the New England States. In short, we believe it to be the earliest, best and most productive flint corn grown. The stalks average 9 to 12 feet high, dependent upon ground, each stalk bearing from one to three ears. It leaves very profusely, nearly to the ground, and both the leaves and stalks are very nutritious and stock eat every vestige of the stalks as well as the leaves or blades. The ears average from 10 to 15 inches in length. It is very early to mature, and if planted late or when the ground is warm it will ripen and be ready for the knife within sixty to seventy-five days from planting. The seed we furnish our customers is from hand picked ears, running ten inches and over in length, thoroughly dry, well cured and can be depended upon to grow almost to a grain.

Owing to the superior advantages of this corn over other sorts of its class we want to urge all who grow corn in the far north, where the seasons are short and where frost may be expected the last of August to September 1st, to order early.

PRICE: 1 lb., 25c; 3 lbs., 60c; 7 lbs., \$1.25; postage or express prepaid to any point in the United States. By freight or express, not prepaid, peck, 75c; bushel, \$2.75; 2 bushels or more at \$2.65; 10 bushels, \$2.60. Bags free. Half bushel, \$1.25.

COLEMAN'S RURAL WORLD—(St. Louis, Mo.):

We extend to you our appreciation of your continuous patronage of our advertising columns since 1885, and judging from the high manner in which our readers have always endorsed your business methods and the good you have done for the farmer you will certainly reap a reward. We have yet the first complaint to receive from any reader where they have not had the best treatment from you.

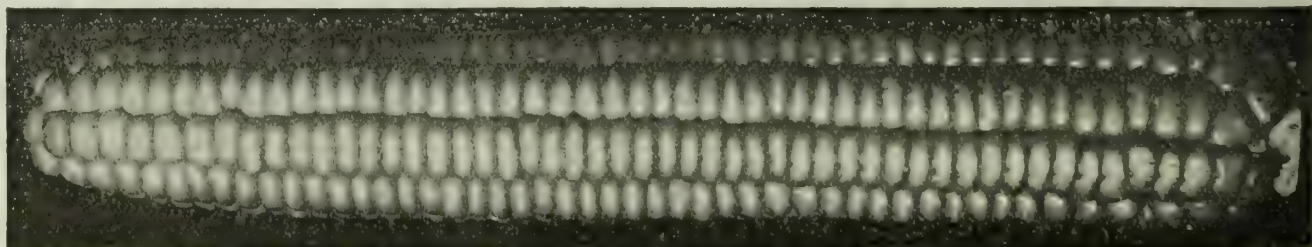
We pledge you our hearty support in the good work you are doing, and wish you continued success and prosperity. Very truly yours,

COLEMAN'S RURAL WORLD,

L. M. Eidman, Adv. Mgr.

SANFORD'S WHITE FLINT.

Handsomest of all Flints.



An eight-rowed white variety, with ears from 10 to 15 inches long, 1½ to 2½ inches in diameter, and well filled out to the extreme end of the cob. The cob is small and the kernel large and broad; ripens in seventy-five to eighty-five days. This corn is well adapted to the northwest and is said to produce 200 bushels of ears to the acre in Massachusetts and other New England States. Has given excellent results in Minnesota, the Dakotas and other northern states. Excellent for ensilage. Stalks are very leafy, splendid for feeding green.

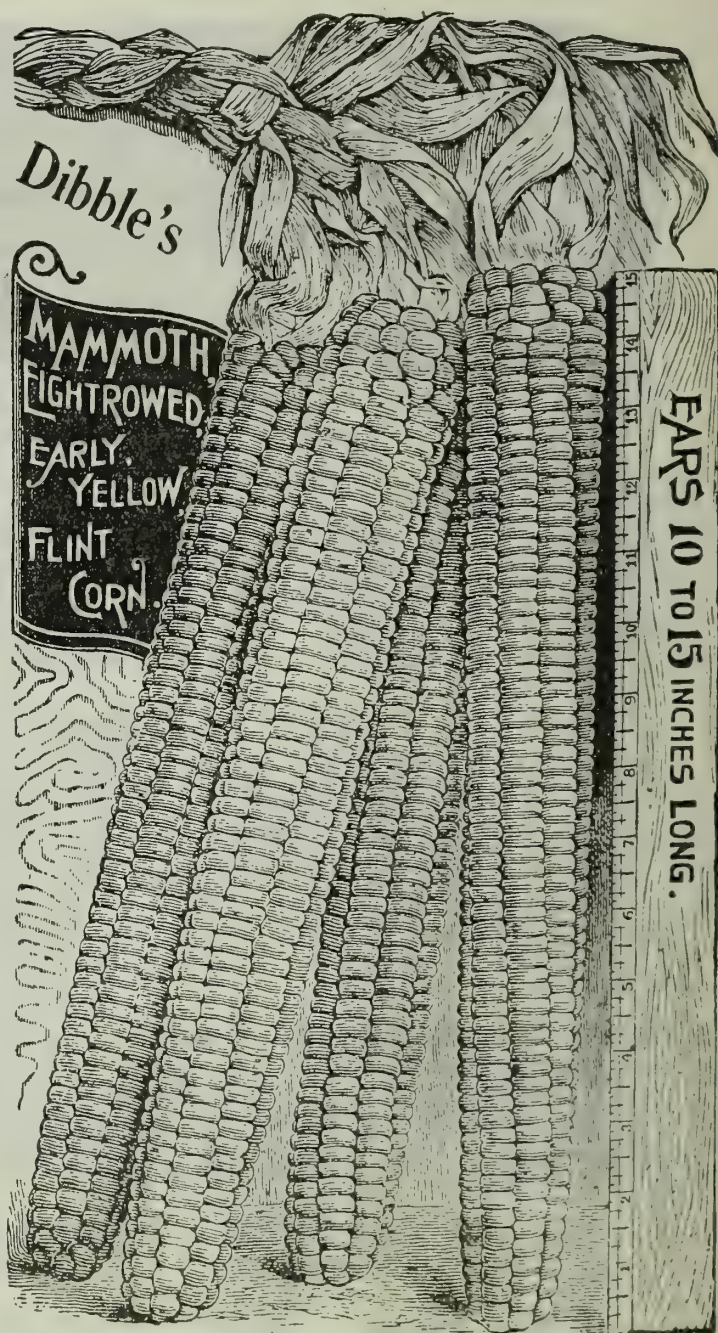
PRICE: Packet, 5c; lb., 20c; 3 lbs., 60c, postpaid. By freight or express, not prepaid, peck, 65c; bushel, \$2.25; 2 bushels or more, \$4.25; 10 bushels, \$20.00.

SHENANDOAH NATIONAL BANK—(Shenandoah, Iowa).

It is with pleasure that we testify to our good opinion of the integrity, responsibility and business ability of Mr. J. W. Ratekin, proprietor of "Ratekin's Seed House" of this city, and to say we have personally known him for many years, during which time this house has, by an honorable business record, built up a large wholesale and retail mail order trade second to no other like business house in the West.

Anyone can, in our judgment, feel perfectly secure in sending their orders and money to this house, as we understand they ship all their seed agreeing that anything not proving satisfactory on receipt and examination may be returned at their expense, and money paid will be immediately refunded, and we believe this house can be relied upon to do exactly as they agree.

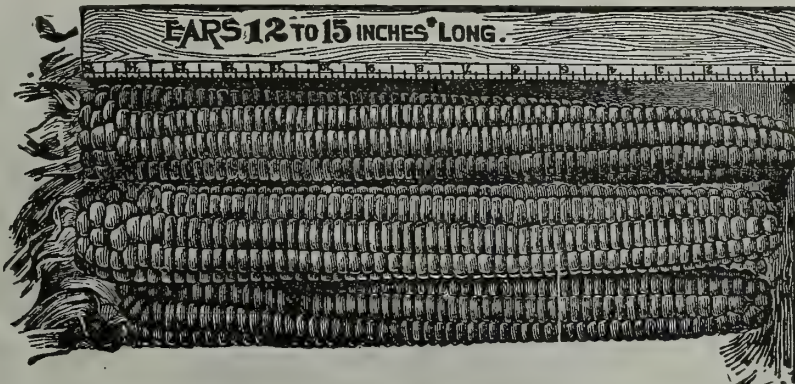
GEORGE BOGART, Pres.



(Prices Subject to Fluctuation of Markets).

Field Corn---Early Flint Varieties

Longfellow. (8-row Yellow Flint). A very early 8-rowed corn of the Canada type; ears cylindrical, about eleven inches long; color, rich glossy. The weight of seed corn is fully sixty pounds. Average height of stalk $7\frac{1}{2}$ feet, average distance base of ear from ground, three feet. Large packet, 10c; lb., 20c, postpaid. By express or freight, $\frac{1}{4}$ bushel, 65c; bushel, \$2.25. Bags free.



Ratekin's Improved Early Yellow Flint. An eight-rowed yellow flint variety, with ears from ten to 15 inches long, $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, and well filled out to the extreme end of the cob. The cob is small and the kernel large and broad; ripens in seventy-five to eighty-five days. This corn is well adapted to the Northwest, and is said to produce 194 bushels of ears to the acre in Vermont and other New England states. Has given excellent results in Minnesota and other Northern States. Excellent for ensilage, and is often used here for replanting. Packet, 5c; lb., 25c; 3 lbs., 60c, postpaid. By freight or express, not prepaid, peck, 65c; bu., \$2.25; 2 bu. or more, \$4.25; 10 bu., \$20.00.

WHAT IS A BUSHEL OF SEED CORN WORTH?

THE INHERITED QUALITY OF CORN TO YIELD HEAVILY OR POORLY ALL COMES OF SEED PLANTED.

People frequently write us that they would like to buy seed corn from us, but cannot because the prices are "too high."

The average price of our seed corn is less than \$2.25 a bushel, including bag.

IS IT WORTH IT?

A bushel of seed corn will plant from six to eight acres. To use our seed will cost, say, thirty cents an acre more than if common crib or home grown corn is planted. It is, therefore, evident that if our seed produces one bushel more to the acre, mind **ONLY ONE BUSHEL MORE**, than the home seed that the entire cost of the seed and freight is paid for by this extra yield.

AGAIN, IS IT WORTH IT?

The corn we sell is grown from seed which has been brought to such a degree of perfection as to render it of almost priceless value. It represents the labor of many years and the expenditure of a very large sum of money. It has behind it the history of big crops. We know that when we plant it that barring flood or drouth it will yield heavily. At the proper time we go through our fields and detassel. When the corn comes to our warehouse it is hand-picked down to such a point as to give us on the average about ten bushels to the acre of seed that goes to our customers; the balance is sold for feed. Is this care worth thirty cents an acre to anyone planting corn?

GERMINATION.

We thoroughly test every lot of corn before we send it out to our customers. At the present writing we have just completed testing thirty separate lots of seed corn. Two tests were made of each lot. Every lot, except one, germinated 98 to 100 per cent, and that one grew 94 per cent. Never in the history of our business have we had better corn than is now in our warehouse. But wherever you may buy you should know for yourself that your seed corn grows before you plant it. We sell our seed under the following

GUARANTEE:

That it be tested promptly on arrival, and if it does not germinate to the entire satisfaction of the purchaser it shall be returned within ten days from time received at our expense and the money paid for same will be immediately refunded without question.

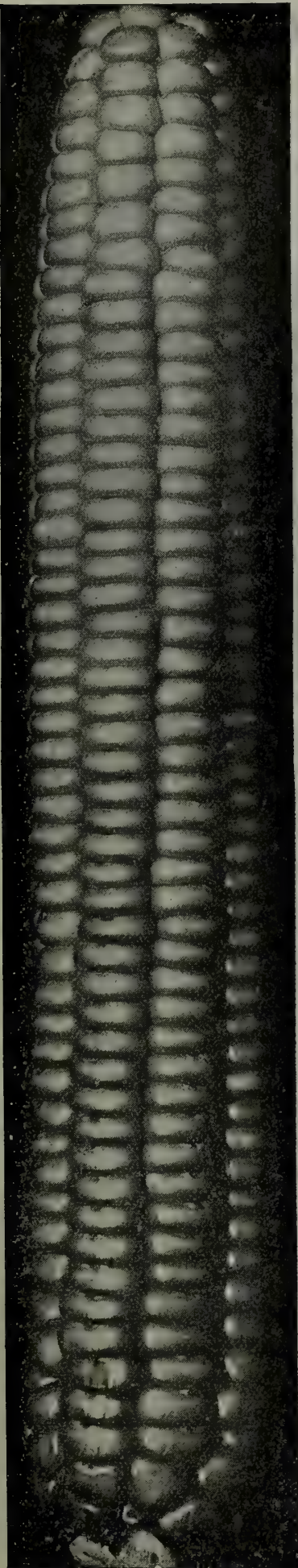
WHEN TO ORDER.

It is of great advantage to both our customers and ourselves if orders are placed early. This applies not only to corn, but to all seeds. After April first several important varieties are usually sold out and cannot be replaced. The "spring rush" is then on; employees become wearied with the long strain of night and day work, orders and shipments are more likely to be delayed, and errors are more likely to occur. In our customers' interest, therefore, as well as our own, we urge early orders.

From ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH.

Southwestern Iowa is the natural and most favored home of corn, where it attains its greatest perfection. This is no idle boast. The claim can be easily established. The Nishnabotna Valley is wonderfully productive. The rich soil extends four, six and even eight feet in depth, full of life giving qualities that make the monster crops of corn. Mark a square twenty-five miles eastward from the banks of the Missouri River and ten miles south to forty miles north of the state line, and there is not another such productive spot in the world.

For thirty years pioneers in the seed corn business, the Ratekins have talked "the breeding up of corn." At first they were laughed at for their pains, but their advice and persistence has resulted in the raising of unheard of crops. One hundred bushels to the acre is no uncommon thing. But such crops are secured only by carefully selected seed and varieties and by a mixture of brains with its cultivation.



Longfellow Flint.

If you want to improve your corn and increase your yield, don't fool away your time sending to amateurs for seed because they offer it but a little above elevator prices. Cheap prices may seem attractive to some, but it's better and cheaper to pay **FIVE DOLLARS PER BUSHEL** for good seed corn; thoroughbred, of inherited productive qualities, than to plant some seed even as a gift.

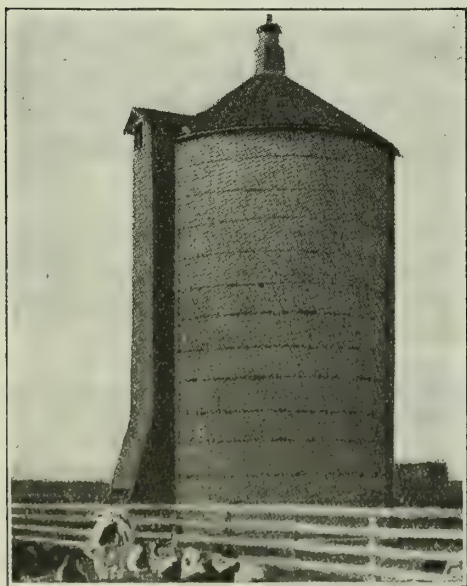
Five Grand Varieties of Fodder Corn



Cutting a Field of Ratekin's Giant Shenandoah Fodder Corn.

FOR YEARS WE HAVE BEEN PREACHING THE GREAT VALUE AND IMPORTANCE OF GROWING FODDER AND ENSILAGE CORN TO THE FARMERS. The dry seasons of the past few years have assisted us in bringing these facts home to them, and has fully aroused them to its great importance as never before. From all reports coming to us from everywhere there was many times over more corn cut for fodder and ensilage purposes the last year or two than any half dozen years in the past. When dry weather come on in the early part of the season and other crops were burned out and withered under the blasting hot winds the farmers planted corn for fodder and ensilage because it was too late to plant other crops. They later found they had hit the mark in so doing. Now every one of them will hereafter plant a liberal acreage for fodder and ensilage purposes, because they have found it one of the most profitable crops they can grow, not as a makeshift, but as a necessity.

We make a specialty in seed corn for fodder and ensilage purposes and our customers will find our varieties of the very best and highest quality and seed they can depend upon to grow.



The Silo. We are not selling Silos. We have none for sale. We have no stock or interest in any factory. There are many good Silos manufactured. We do not know which one is best. But we do know that every farm and every farmer who has ten, fifteen or twenty head of stock, of more, should have a silo. Silage is good for the cow, the horse, hog, sheep, colts and calves. The silo is endorsed by every agricultural college and every leading agricultural publication, and by all who have used them. They are money savers and money makers, and keep your stock healthy, thrifty and fat.

The value of a silo is unquestioned. By its use crops may be saved in dry seasons that could not otherwise be preserved. By its use the whole corn crop may be saved instead of only sixty per cent of it, as now, when the ears only are harvested. By its use the stock may be fed succulent feed at all times and thus enjoy June conditions the year around. By its use crops are placed under shelter, where they are handled in bad weather with the utmost ease and comfort. By its use better and quicker results are assured in either the beef or dairy herd. By its use the farmer feels that he is up-to-date, because he does his work easier, quicker and with more profit. He has more time and more money. He is at peace with himself, his neighbors and his dumb animals. He is an optimist. He has made a good investment.

Varieties of Fodder Corn. Corn fodder may be divided into five classes, viz.: Large Southern Varieties, Medium Dent Varieties, Early Dent Varieties, Flint Varieties and Sweet Varieties. Each of these has its friends. All may be successfully grown for fodder in almost any latitude. The merits of each class are briefly stated under their respective headings. If further information is desired we shall be glad to supply it as far as lies within our power, and will be pleased to make recommendations when desired. There is one point we want to impress on stockmen, dairymen and others using corn fodder, and that is to place your orders early. By so doing you secure the benefit of the present low prices. You can test the seed and have corn. **Prices Subject to Market Changes.**

Ratekin's Giant Shenandoah Fodder Corn.

Beyond a doubt this is among the best fodder corn, either to feed green right out of the field, or to put up for the silo, or to cure and stack away, cropping as high as 35 tons to the acre. It is sweet, tender and juicy, and furnishes more nourishment than any other variety; has short joint and therefore an abundance of leaves and blades, and growing as tall as the tallest, thus making it of extraordinary productiveness. The only fault we have ever heard of this fodder corn is that it grows so large and so tall it makes it harder to handle. We measured one stalk from our crop last fall that was eighteen feet and four inches in height and measured $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter at the base, and contained thirty-two pairs of broad, long blades.

Drill 1 to $1\frac{1}{2}$ bushels to the acre in rows about $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet apart. Five or six kernels to each foot in the row; plow and cultivate until three feet high, stirring the surface of the ground often, after which it will take care of itself.

PRICE: Peck, 50c; $\frac{1}{2}$ bu., 90c; 1 bu., \$1.60; 2 bu., \$3.00; 5 bu. and over, \$1.40 per bu. Bags free, f. o. b. here.

Red Cob Fodder Corn.

This is a standard Southern variety which has made a wide reputation all over the country, and is noted for its splendid qualities for both fodder and ensilage purposes. It grows very tall, ranging from twelve to sixteen feet, and is a very leafy, broad blade.

PRICE: By freight or express at purchaser's expense: Peck, 50c; half bushel, 90c; 1 bushel to 5 bushels, \$1.60; 10 bushels and over, \$1.50. Bags free, on board cars here.

Fodder Corn

Medium Dent Fodder Corn.

There are many who prefer for fodder smaller growing corn than the large and later varieties, claiming for it the following advantages: First, that it is more readily handled by the corn harvester, or even the grain binder; second, that it matures earlier, and gives well formed and often partially or fully ripened ears; third, that it is more easily cured; fourth, that the smaller stalks make finer and richer fodder; fifth, that the fodder is more easily handled in putting through the silage or fodder cutter, or if fed long is more easily handled in the manger.

We believe this variety will best please the advocates of the type of corn above referred to. It is tall growing, averaging seven to eight feet. It is very leafy. It has a small stalk. It will form, even in Northern Minnesota and in North Dakota, good sized ears, thus adding to its feeding value.

Highly recommended by the best ensilage authorities for northern states, as True Yellow Leaming produces large quantities of leaves. Bushel, \$1.60; 5 bushels, \$7.25.

EARLY YELLOW DENT FODDER CORN. When sown thickly in drills, at the rate of from one to one and a half bushels to the acre, this seed will give a surprising amount of rich feed, relished by all stock. It can be cut and run through an ensilage cutter for the silo just before maturity, or it may be fed in the rack.

PRICE: Bushel, \$1.65; 2½ bushels (bag), at \$1.55; 10 bushels at \$1.50. Bags free.

Flint Varieties for Fodder.

The farmers of Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire and Massachusetts use for fodder corn Early Flint varieties almost exclusively. There is absolutely no waste to this class or corn, as the stalk is as greedily eaten as the leaves, and the feeding value is superior to everything but the Sweet Fodder or Early Dent Varieties.

When it comes to Flint varieties for ensilage you want to quit looking after you have come to **DIBBLE'S MAMMOTH YELLOW FLINT**. There is nothing grown—nothing ever offered that is better—none that equals it. **FIRST**, it is as early as the earliest dwarf varieties—making itself anywhere in from sixty to seventy-five days, safely beyond danger of frost, good corn weather. It grows stalks averaging from nine to twelve feet high and leaves or blades from tassel to ground, and both leaves and stalks are very nutritious, and stock devour every vestige of it, stalks and blades, as readily as they eat clover hay. It produces one, two and three ears, running from ten to fifteen inches long, and has been known to give a yield of 225 bushels of ears in Massachusetts, and almost as much in Minnesota. It's the corn for fodder! It's the corn for ensilage and the best in every respect for everything and everywhere; east, west, north or south, for early or late planting, where the seasons are short or in high altitudes where the nights are cool; also for early feed. Don't overlook or pass this Flint Corn up. For ensilage or fodder, plant rows 3½ feet part, drilling eight to ten kernels to the foot in the row, and cultivate same as general field crop.

Stowell's Evergreen Sweet Corn.

Among all the splendid varieties for fodder and ensilage purposes we have here listed we regard Stowell's Evergreen Sweet Corn as one of the most valuable varieties grown, either for fodder, canning purposes or for seed purposes, either of which makes it a most desirable and profitable crop. In addition it is a most excellent variety to cut and throw out to milch cows, horses, hogs and the colts and calves during the summer and fall months, when grass is dried up and pasturage short. As a green fodder fed in this way one acre will furnish as much feed as eight acres of grass. The sweet, juicy stalks give it a flavor that makes stock like it as they like nothing else, and stock will devour the last vestige of the stalks and blades as clean as they would wipe up the best clover in the midst of winter. It is claimed by all dairy farmers that it will not only greatly increase the flow of milk, but will add a third to a half to the cream production. All we have said about its wonderful qualities as a green feed may be said with equal truth and force when it is cut up and put into shocks and fed during the winter months. Even in its dry stage stock of all kinds will eat every vestige of the stalks and blades. There is no waste whatever in this corn.

Plant with drill in rows 3½ feet apart, eight to ten kernels to the foot in the row. Cultivate thoroughly, plowing deep and close to the corn the first time, after which cultivate shallow or surface cultivation until three feet high. This variety of corn will make you from fifteen to thirty tons to the acre.

PRICE: 1 lb., 25c; 3 lbs., 65c; 7 lbs., \$1.00, postpaid or express charges prepaid to any point in the United States. By freight or express at purchaser's expense: Peck, \$1.00; ½ bu., \$1.75; 1 bu., \$3.25; 5 bu. and over, \$3.00 per bu. Bags free f. o. b. here.

IN CONCLUSION: The one problem that confronts every farmer who keeps stock is how to get feed to supply his horses, cattle and hogs. The corn plant is the foundation food, and every portion of it should be used. A good silo on every farm where stock is raised and where corn can be grown solves the problem. But where the farmer don't feel able or conditions do not justify he should at least grow a few acres of Fodder Corn and take care of it in the most practical way he can. We cannot too highly recommend **STOWELL'S EVERGREEN** where you have only a few horses or cows. Plant a few acres, if no more, and our word for it you will be pleased. Don't plant too early, nor when the ground is cold and wet. Sweet corn will sour in the ground when other field varieties will grow under wet, cold weather conditions.

For Grain and Fodder Crop Combined.

We want to especially recommend our Gold Standard, Leaming, Ratekin's Mammoth Yellow Dent, Pride of Nishna, Diamond Joe's Big White, Iowa Silver Mine and Imperial White Corn. Either of these varieties will give you the best possible combination for a combination grain and fodder or ensilage crop. All of them mature early, and each have a very heavy stalk, broad leaves and lots of them.



Stowell's Evergreen.

THE SECURITY TRUST & SAVINGS BANK.

Shenandoah, Iowa.

For many years we have been acquainted, both in a personal and business way with Mr. J. W. Ratekin, proprietor of Ratekin's Seed House of this city. During this time he has handled many thousand bushels of seed from our farms and farms of others connected with this bank, and these and his business transactions and relations with us have always been so pleasant and satisfactory that we appreciate this opportunity to express our good opinion of his integrity, financial standing and progressive business methods.

His house has built up an extensive business, and the fact that a dissatisfied customer is unheard of is sufficient testimonial of the straight business methods of the firm and the quality of seed they handle and send out. Very truly yours,

E. C. FISHBAUGH, Cashier.

FARMER AND STOCKMAN—(Kansas City, Mo.):

For many years the Ratekin Seed House of Shenandoah, Iowa, has been a free user of advertising space in the Farmer and Stockman. As a result of this many of our readers have had business dealings with this firm. We believe that we voice the sentiments of practically all customers of this firm when we say that all seeds sent out by the Ratekin Seed House are not only up to the standard in germination qualities and in purity, but they are above the standard in excellency of varieties offered for sale. This is especially true as applied to farm crops, and notably of seed corn. The locality where they are situated is recognized to be one of the best corn growing localities in the United States, and by a system of co-operation with good corn growers a large number of varieties are grown under the very eye of the officers and managers of this house, so that when such corn is sent out it does not turn out to be a hybrid or a freak, but produces like the parent corn. Any endorsement that we might give to the methods adopted by this firm in caring for their corn might with equal force be applied to their plan of handling all seeds.

Ten Thousand Silos Built in Iowa in 1912

As against 4,000 in 1911: so wires H. M. Cotrell, Agricultural Commissioner of the Rock Island Lines, to the Chicago office of that road (September 1st, 1912). The above is a fair index of the favor and utility of the silo, as seen and experienced by the Iowa farmers.

Ratekin's Reliable Farm Seeds

FIRST, AFTER GOOD SEED CORN, IN IMPORTANCE AS A SUBSTANTIAL MONEY CROP TO THE AMERICAN FARMER IS SEED WHEAT, OATS, BARLEY, GRASSES, CLOVER, POTATOES, ETC., THESE ARE THE MONEY, DOLLAR, CROPS IN WHICH THE FARMER IS MOST INTERESTED.

While we have given extensive space to the seed corn question there can be no doubt that as wide opportunity offers to careful study and experiment in the growing of other farm crops, with the same success and results as has been attained in the improvement of corn and wheat since the agitation and progress made during the past few years. In fact, there is actual proof of this our own practical experience as well as others who have planted and grown crops from our seeds within the past twenty-nine years. As in corn breeding, we were the pioneers in the breeding and importing new varieties of seed wheat and oats from foreign countries. Our methods for breeding oats are much the same as those in use at the Minnesota, Wisconsin and Illinois Experiment Stations, namely, record of single mother plants whose ability to yield has shown them to be exceptionally high and worthy of propagation. In this way our new varieties have been propagated, and we actually believe and know that farmers who buy their seeds from us will have every reason to be glad of it, and will find their every investment made with us for farm and grass seeds a profitable one.

In addition to our many years' experience in the seed business, we have had twenty years or more practical experience on the farm. Yes, we have been up against the "real thing itself," and from the time we first engaged in the seed business, twenty-nine years ago, we have always felt that the nearer we could keep in touch with the practical, intelligent, up-to-date farmer, the more valuable information we could gain, and through this source we have been inspired to make a great many experiments in the propagation and improvement in various kinds of farm seeds and crops. Each year since our business began, we have sent out thousands of letters of inquiry to all parts of the country, with regard to results obtained from our seed, manner of planting, cultivation, as well as yields compared with other sorts. By reason of this wide and extended information we believe we are in a position to help and benefit many of our customers in making selection of seeds best suited to their climate and soil, which we are always and ever ready to do. In fact, we want to help and assist our customers in every way we can, and if they obtain good results, or better returns from our seed than others get who buy elsewhere, we feel it the best and most profitable advertising we can do. It not only insures a continuance of your patronage, but is an inspiration to your neighbors and friends to send to us for seeds.

With the liberal and continued support and hearty co-operation of the farmer, we shall in the future, as in the past, urge onward in the fields of new tests and experiments, believing that if we can get a new sort that will produce **TWO BUSHELS** where one formerly grew that we are doing the farmer great good. Our success in this line in the past has been signal, and the farmer stands by us, for our seeds are recognized for their superior quality the world over.

WE WERE THE FIRST TO INTRODUCE NEW AND BETTER VARIETIES OF FIELD SEED CORN. We have imported AND INTRODUCED NEW VARIETIES OF WINTER SEED WHEAT AND SEED OATS, BARLEY, etc., that have increased the yield largely; often doubling it. For these reasons, **WE TAKE PRIDE** in our large and increasing trade in the **FARM SEED** branch of our business. With our new and convenient building, improved machinery and equipment for cleaning, which are as perfect as any in the United States, we are enabled to clean and grade all kinds of seeds perfectly; far better than those commonly sold.

High Grade Seed Grain. It costs more to grow a crop for seed purposes than the ordinary farmer can understand. In the first place it requires extra choice stock seed, specially prepared land, special cultivation, great care in harvesting, cleaning, testing, preparing for shipment, bags, etc., etc., so we are obliged to ask a considerable advance over market prices, but any intelligent farmer will agree with us that such seeds are well worth to him, in the increased yield, all we ask.

Prices. Prices named in this department on all clovers and grasses are subject to important market changes. Quotations are net, and are not subject to premium or discount which is offered on garden or flower seeds. Clover and grass seeds are constantly varying in value. Please write for quotations, sending list of requirements when in need. Orders sent us will be given the benefit of lowest prices on day order is received. We will take pleasure in mailing samples and quoting inside prices at any time on request.

Shipping. In this department everything that is quoted by the packet or pound is sent by mail, postpaid; all large quantities, unless noted, are sent by express or freight at expense of purchaser. Prices named include bags free. Everything delivered free in good order f. o. b. Shenandoah.

Freight Shipments. In another place in this catalog you will find freight rates quoted to points in many of the states, from which you can form a very correct estimate of what the freight will be to your nearest railroad station. We want to call attention, however, to the fact that railroad companies usually charge no more for 100 pounds than they do for any lesser amount, and should you want less than 100 pounds of seeds, **IN ORDER TO EQUALIZE OR REDUCE THE COST OF TRANSPORTATION**, we advise the sending of club orders. Anyone can get up a club. Simply see some of your neighbors and friends and ask them to send with you, and advise us to ship to one person, in one shipment. If each customer writes or makes out his own order under his own name it will be a very easy matter for us to keep each customer's seeds separate, and the freight charges will be next to nothing when shared by several persons. Or you can divide them yourself as you wish.

IF YOU LIVE AT A DISTANT POINT and wish to order some article or seeds that would weigh but fifteen or twenty pounds it would then be cheaper and safer, as well as expeditious, to send it by express.

REMEMBER THAT WE GUARANTEE OUR SEEDS TO BE AS REPRESENTED, AND IF NOT FOUND ENTIRELY SATISFACTORY ON RECEIPT AND EXAMINATION YOU MAY RETURN THEM AT OUR EXPENSE ANY TIME WITHIN TEN DAYS AND MONEY PAID FOR THEM WILL BE REFUNDED.

A Good Farmer. It is said that "the result of warfare depends very largely upon the men behind the guns." This is equally true of every human endeavor. The successful growing of a crop is no exception. "He that by the plow would thrive must either hold or drive" is as true as the Bible. In this day of advanced agriculture success can only be obtained by a good knowledge of the underlying scientific principles.

Anyone can farm after a fashion, but for best results aside from weather and climatic conditions there are three or four other essential elements, all of about equal importance, that must be combined in order that success may be assured. They are a good farmer, good soil, good seed and good cultivation, mixed with brains and intelligence.

The chemical and mechanical conditions of the soil, the physiology of the plants as well as the philosophy of cultivation and plant growth, must be understood by the farmer in order that he may be able to meet and overcome the ever varying conditions that confront him, identical conditions not returning once in a decade. Having the knowledge he will know when, how and for what purpose he cultivates. To illustrate: suppose the soil seems quite fertile but is inclined to pack and run together and become hard on the least provocation. It shows that the soil lacks humus, vegetable mould, or as some call it, fiber. The remedy is to apply a heavy coat of coarse litter, such as coarse manure, straw or stalks cut fine, or a heavy crop of some green stuff plowed under—any way to add decayed vegetable matter to the soil.

Or suppose there is too heavy growth of stalk, vines or branches and a light crop of grain or fruit. This shows there is too much nitrogen compared with other elements of fertility. The thing to do is to add phosphoric acid and potash to restore the proper balance, or continue to crop with some rank grower until the surplus nitrogen is taken up. Hence, we conclude the farmer must be a close observer, a good reasoner, a thinker and executor. But however well informed may be the "man with a hoe" he cannot raise a good crop without good seed and good cultivation.

Good Seeds Are The Key to The Harvest. By good seed we mean that which has been handled so that all of its germinating power has been preserved, aided by a constitutional vigor implanted in the grain by a judicious selection, cultivation and environment that produces a pure or improved variety. This may be done by the common farmer, but is generally best done by the professional seed grower. He generally knows better how to do this, and has the proper facilities for doing the work. This is a business of itself.

Cheap seed is expensive. This cannot be better illustrated than by following the analysis of two lots of red clover which were actually bought in the open market, one lot costing \$5.20 per cwt. and the other \$15.00 per cwt.

	Sample No. 1.	Sample No. 2.
Percentage of weed seed	25.78	.09
Percentage of dirt, sticks and trash.....	26.16	1.08
Percentage of red clover	48.08	98.83
Percentage red clover, germinated.....	18.25	98.86
Actual cost per cwt. red clover seed that germinated.....	\$28.48	\$15.65
Number weed seed per pound.....	139.727	1.50

Obviously the farmer who bought the cheap seed made an expensive investment. The same rule holds good all along the line when it comes to buying and planting seeds for your crops.

THE NEW ALBERTA OATS

Big Oats Make Big Yields and Big Money

The New Alberta. The Biggest, Best and Grandest variety ever introduced into this country. **THERE IS NONE LIKE THEM.** We first introduced these oats three years ago and they gave such wonderful results everywhere from the start, we were encouraged the following year to purchase fifteen car loads, or 20,000 bushels of them and sent out over fifty thousand samples. Everywhere they captivated the eye of the grain growing farmer, and as a result we sold out long before the season was over and could have sold many thousand bushels more if we had had them. Everywhere we sent them they proved a great success—the wonder of the **OAT WORLD.** In view of the increased demand and enormous yields obtained everywhere from them, we established a purchasing agent at Calgary, Alberta, in the great grain growing district of Western Canada, in 1911 and again in 1912. Our agent at that point has been associated with us here in the seed business for many years, one who has made the study of cereal and farm seeds a specialty for years, especially seed oats, wheat, barley and other small grain crops, and perhaps has no superior in judgment as to quality and varieties anywhere. During the past two seasons we have had him watching crops before and at the time harvested, locating the best only that that wonderful small grain country produces, and we are again pleased to say we have purchased 25,000 bushels of the cream of the very best **NEW ALBERTA OATS** to be found or located in that country, for our trade.

THE NEW ALBERTA—WHAT THEY ARE LIKE.

The illustration bordering this page is a correct illustration of average kernels of these oats. You will notice they are a big, fat kernel, big enough to please anyone looking for something just a little bigger and better than anything ever seen in the oat line, and an oat that weighs out almost as heavy as wheat; usually from forty-four to fifty pounds to the measured bushel, and making a yield of ninety to 150 bushels to the acre on good ground. Has a big, strong, stiff straw, capable of standing up well on any kind of land, with sprangled head ranging from 12 to 18 inches long, and some even much longer. Is early to ripen.

Now I have given no exaggerated or overdrawn description, but can confidentially recommend these oats and assure all that they will come up to the full measure of your expectations. In fact, out of the thousands of bushels we have sent out **WE HAVE NEVER HAD ONE SINGLE COMPLAINT OR DISAPPOINTED CUSTOMER.**

NOW WHAT I WOULD LIKE TO SEE this year would be that every farmer who has one acre or more ground to sow in oats, would be, to **SOW IT TO OUR NEW ALBERTAS.** It will require $2\frac{1}{2}$ bushels per acre. The seed will cost you for one acre but \$5.00, or \$18.00 for enough to plant four acres. Now we are not going to tell you exactly how much these four acres will yield, but with good ground, well prepared, under normal conditions they will make you a yield that will be an eye-opener to you and to your entire neighborhood, and will enable you to sell all your surplus at a handsome price for seed.

Two years ago, when we sent out thousands of samples of these oats, a wealthy banker of Chicago, and a large land owner in Central Illinois, while visiting in Southern Illinois, run across our catalogue and a sample of these oats. He immediately wired us to ship 100 bushels to his manager. Planting season was at hand and the seed was started the same day his telegram was received and inside of six days the seed was all in the ground. Do you know the results? From forty acres on which he sowed these oats, there were grown 3600 bushels and there were sold from the thrashing machine 3100 bushels to the surrounding farmers for seed purposes at \$1.00 per bushel; thus obtaining \$75.00 per acre with 500 bushels left for his own use and seeding purposes another year. Any active, energetic enterprising farmer can do the same if he has got the stuff in him to hustle.

PRICE: Large package (enough to give you a bushel of seed), 15c; lb., 35c, postpaid; 8 lbs., postpaid, \$1.50. At purchaser's expense, by express or freight: Peck, 90c; $\frac{1}{2}$ bu., \$1.00; 2 to 4 bu., \$1.90; 10 bu. and over, \$1.80. Sacks free, f. o. b. Shenandoah.

My oats stood five feet high; made eighty bushels per acre; were the admiration of the surrounding country. The heads measured an average of 10 to 12 inches.

E. J. BROWNING,
Franklyn County, Vt.

The oats bought of you made good. We have just threshed from sixteen acres 1,310 bushels, machine measure; weight 42 pounds to measured bushel.

SAMUEL GLASGOW,
Livingston County, N. Y.

Ratekin's New Alberta Oats



LOOK HERE!

The New Alberta Oats.

Take a look at the above picture. It shows the character and type of these oats. They were all grown on new, clean, virgin soil, free from foul weed seeds.

The oats I raised from your seed were simply great. They stood up in good shape and were the banner piece of oats for this season.

PAUL W. GOODSOE, Stratham, N. H.

Saunk County, Wis., Oct. 1st.

Ratekin's Seed House.

Gentlemen: I sent to you for ten bushels of oats last spring. I have just threshed from them 576 bushels of the finest oats I ever saw. I never saw anything to equal them. They are all you claim for them. Truly yours,

OLE OLSON.

On the preceding page we have given a true photographic illustration of the kernels of the **NEW ALBERTA OATS**, and the accompanying illustration shows a head of over 200 kernels on one stalk. By observing closely you will see an average of three kernels to the pod. This shows what good breeding does. These oats, practically all the heads, show two to four kernels to the pod, all big, meaty kernels, free from whiskers and husks and "as heavy as lead."

GET THE GENUINE ALBERTA OATS from headquarters. We are the only Seed House in America that keeps a man on the ground during the growing, harvesting and threshing season, thus insuring **GENUINE SELECT-PURE STOCK**.

CAUTION: Don't confuse the New Alberta Oats with so-called "Regenerated Swedish Select." Our **ALBERTAS ARE A HUNDRED TO ONE BETTER** than any of the so-called Regenerated Swedish Select. We have tried them out side by side and know this to be true.

Some think our prices too high for seed enough to plant their entire crop, but we can't sell these oats for less, owing to paying freight 1,800 miles and duty on oats from Canada, but the increased yield and quality will many times over repay the extra cost of the seed.

EVERY GRAIN-GROWING FARMER SHOULD SOW FIVE OR TEN ACRES OF THESE OATS THIS YEAR. THE MORE YOU SOW THE BETTER PLEASED YOU WILL BE. TRY THEM AND YOU WILL NOT REGRET IT.

Clay County, Mo., Feb. 27th, 1912.

I sent to you for some of your New Alberta Oats two years ago and sowed them on ordinary ground. I still have on exhibition here some of the largest heads that I cut out from my crop, some of them measuring 23½ inches in length and a very large majority of them running 16 inches. I much regret that I did not keep a bushel of them and send to you. Very truly yours,

A. A. MILLER.

Gilead, Neb., Feb. 10th, 1912.

Send me your seed catalog; also prices on seed oats in fifty bushel lots and over. I bought seed oats from you before and was pleased with the results, and for this reason would be glad to have your best quotations and lowest prices on oats. Respectfully,

GORGE MASSING.

Ada, Ohio, April 1st, 1912.

Received seed oats all O. K. March 26th, and find them A No. 1. Am well pleased. Accept thanks for your prompt action. I remain, yours truly,

JOHN SEARSON.

Mansfield, Penn., May 22d, 1912.

I should have advised you before this that my seed oats arrived in good time and fine condition. Also that I was greatly pleased with the quality of them. Truly yours,

O. E. DEWEY.

The seed came to hand promptly and I thank you for the way you do business. I also received your letter with remittance and refund on overpayment, which was very much unexpected, but must say it gives me pleasure to do business with people like you. I want to try some of your New Malakoff wheat this fall.

L. D. PRICE, Wakarusa, Ind.

Spencer, Neb., April 2, 1912.

Gentlemen: I received the oats I ordered from you, and they are fine. I am now sending you an order for some Early Ohio, Red River grown seed potatoes. I could get what they call Early Ohio, Northern grown here, but they don't look good to me, and will send you an order for them. Truly yours,

JOHN MENTZER.

Boone County, Ky., Oct. 9th, 1910.

The oats ordered from you simply done fine; made an average of 125 bushels per acre. Please send me sample of your New Malakoff Winter Wheat and your wheat catalogue. Very truly yours,

W. A. OSBORN.

From the twenty-six acres of oats (fifty bushels of seed), we threshed 2,190 bushels, and every bushel will weigh out 40 to 46 pounds per bushel. I never saw anything like them in this country.

JOHN E. DIFFENBAUGH, Monroe Co., N. Y.

The oats I bought of you last spring proved all you claimed for them. They stood five feet high and were as even over the top as water in a pond; never saw anything like them in this country. The straw was strong and stiff, standing up well. They made ninety-six bushels per acre. The weight being forty-three pounds per measured bushel. Will want some of your Pride of Nishna and Iowa Silver Mine seed corn in the spring.

A. M. GROVER, Bucks County, Pa.

The oats stood up to my chin and yielded sixty bushels per acre.

B. F. HULSE, Mercer County, N. J.

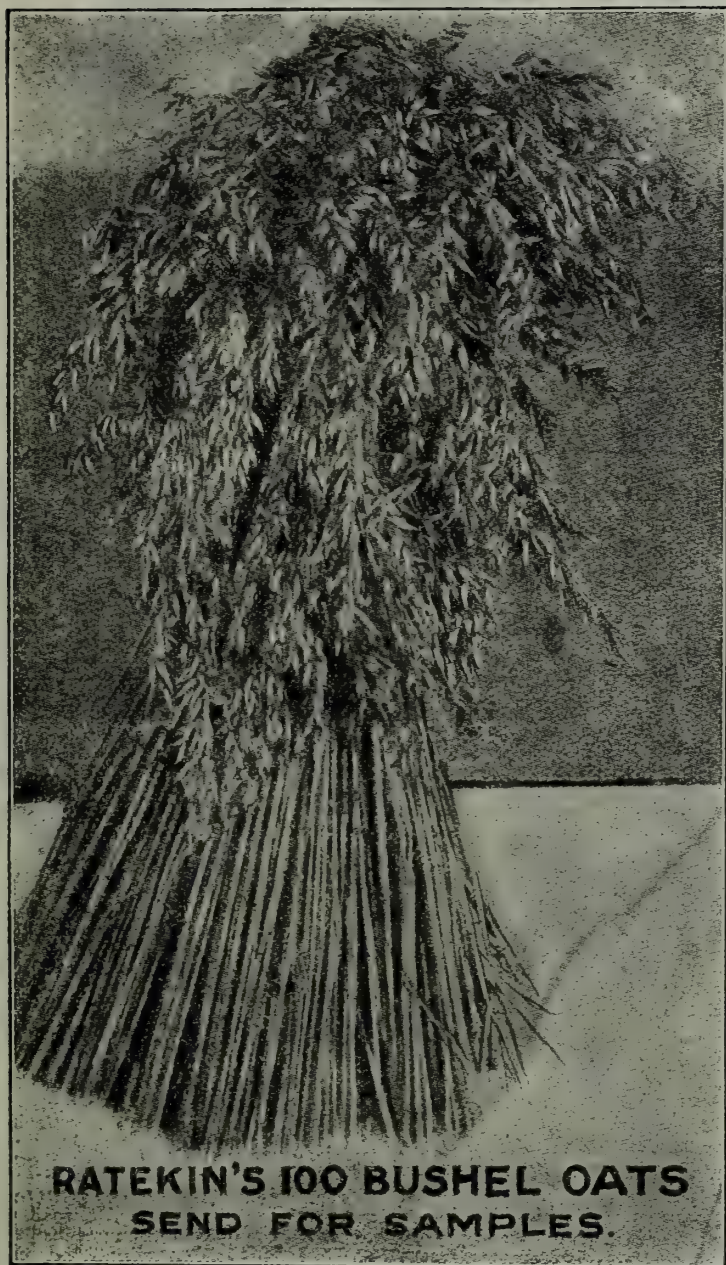
FARMERS MAIL AND BREEZE—(Topeka, Kansas):

You have used space in the Farmers Mail and Breeze for many years, and we have frequently seen letters from our subscribers complimenting your seed house upon its promptness and satisfactory manner in which you transacted your business with them.

FARMERS MAIL AND BREEZE.

By Arthur Capper, Publisher.

Ratekin's Big Banner 100 Bushel Oats



RATEKIN'S 100 BUSHEL OATS
SEND FOR SAMPLES.

The Big Banner Oats did fine. Threshed 100 bushels from two bushels of seed bought from you last spring.

J. M. BURBANKS, Clayton County, Iowa.

I trust you will be pleased to know that I sowed the ten bushels of Big Banner 100-Bushel Oats in good time and on strong land, on four acres, and from them I have just threshed 425 bushels of the finest oats I have ever seen. Every bushel is equal to the sample and seed you sent to me. I sure have no kick coming, but feel under many thanks for your prompt attention and kind treatment received in all my transactions with you. Very truly yours,

JOHN J. SEALY, Medina County, Ohio.

You asked how I liked the Big Banner Oats I got from you; also results obtained from them. I can hardly find words to express praises for these oats. I never saw or grew any crop like or equal to them. From twelve bushels of seed got from you I sowed five acres and have just threshed them, obtaining eighty-seven bushels per acre, 435 bushels from five acres. This is by far the greatest yield I have ever grown. They ripened ten days ahead of any of our common oats and weighed out forty-four to forty-six pounds to the bushel of the finest, meatiest oats I ever saw.

JAMES E. NEWMYER, Clinton County, Pa.

The Big Banner Oats I bought of you last spring proved out all you claimed for them. They stood five feet high and were as even over the top as water in a pond; never saw anything like them in this country. The straw was strong and stiff, standing up well. They made ninety-six bushels per acre. The weight being forty-three pounds per measured bushel. Will want some of your Pride of Nishna and Iowa Silver Mine seed corn in the spring.

A. M. GROVER, Bucks County, Pa.

"Ratekin's Big Banner 100 Bushel" White Oats

are a variety of OUR OWN PRODUCTION, originated BY US UNDER THE SEED PATCH SYSTEM, and are the result of several years of painstaking in the selection and propagating from single select heads which we have developed into the **BEST AMERICAN GROWN VARIETY IN EXISTENCE**. This is a **BOLD ASSERTION**, but is backed up from three years' experience of over twenty thousand farmers who have sown and grown them, having sent out over fifty thousand bushels during this time, and out of all we have never had a single isolated complaint, but have had more than a thousand letters from those who have sown them telling us of the enormous yields obtained, ranging all the way from seventy-five to 140 bushels per acre and extolling them from every standpoint.

DESCRIPTION and POINTS OF SUPERIORITY: First, its big, plump white kernel and thin hull. Its quick, strong, robust growth from the start. A shorter stronger, heavier, stiffer straw than any of the heavier yielding varieties. Its strong, vigorous root system, enabling it to resist dry weather and drouth. Its early ripening and maturity. Its absolute freedom from rust, blight or smut. Its large kernels being solid and full of meat, almost as heavy as wheat, weighing out from forty to fifty pounds per **MEASURED BUSHEL**, combining all the best points and qualities of all **THE BEST AMERICAN GROWN VARIETIES OF OATS IN EXISTENCE**.

We can fully recommend these oats to every grain growing farmer, and can assure one and all that you will make no mistake or have no failures in your oat crop when you sow these oats, and I hope every grain growing farmer who reads this catalogue will sow at least a part of his crop to them the coming season.

J. W. R.

PRICE: Peck, 40c; bu., \$1.40; 2½ bu., \$3.25; 5 bu., \$6.25; 10 bu. and more at \$1.20 per bu., sacks included.

I believe among all that is good **RATEKIN'S BIG BANNER 100-Bushel White Oats** to be the best. Side by side with other varieties the past season they made two bushels to one of other sorts.

JAMES SWEENEY, La Porte County, Ind.

RATEKIN'S BIG BANNER 100-Bushel White Oats stand pre-eminently at the head of any other oats I have ever grown. From ten acres the past season I grew 960 bushels of the finest oats I ever saw, weighing out forty-seven pounds to the measured bushel.

L. W. ARMSTRONG, Cerro Gorda County, Iowa.

Your Big Banner Oats done splendidly for me the past season. Made an average of seventy-eight bushels per acre, or 1,560 bushels on a 20-acre field, measured land.

SAMUEL KOTCH, Le Salle County, Ill.

I am more than pleased with the success and results from your Big Banner Oats. I obtained ninety-four bushels per acre the past season—940 bushels off ten acres of ground, weighed measure. These oats, however, weigh out almost as heavy as lead. I am well pleased.

JACOB KERNS, McLain County, Ill.

I want to tell you about my crop from the Big Banner Oats I got from you last spring. They were simply immense—never saw anything like them. Got 1,900 bushels from twenty acres. Sowed 2½ bushels per acre and got a thousand bushels more than any of my neighbors got from the same amount of land.

JAMES P. HOLLAND, Saline County, Mo.

I threshed 105 bushels of your Big Banner oats from one acre with 2½ bushels of seed I got from you last spring. Every bushel weighed out forty-five to 48 lbs per bushel, and the finest oats in appearance I ever looked at.

JOHN T. SIBLEY, El Paso County, Colo.

I have never seen or grown anything in the oats line so pleasing and satisfactory as your Big Banner White Oats. They are early, stand up well on the strongest, richest ground and outyield ordinary varieties more than two to one, and superior in quality as well as in every other respect. Made me yield of 111 bushels per acre the past season.

JOHN C. CLINGMAN, Fremont County, Colo.

I think **RATEKIN'S BIG BANNER OATS** ahead of anything I have even seen in the oats line. Made ninety-six bushels per acre, big fat kernels, and weighed out forty-eight pounds to the measured bushel.

SAMUEL J. TILTON, Lawrence County, Kan.

In the language of Teddy Roosevelt, "I am delighted." The Big Banner oats are "bully." Got 610 bushels from twelve bushels of seed sown on five acres. Finest oats I ever saw. Seed would have been cheap at three times the cost. They are grand.

L. B. PIPER, Platte County, Mo.

You may be interested to know my experience and results obtained from the twelve bushels of Big Banner Seed Oats I got from you last spring. I sowed the twelve bushels on five acres of well-prepared ground and threshed from them 510 bushels of the finest oats I ever saw; weighed out forty-five pounds to the measured bushel. Thus you can appreciate the proportion of hull to solid meat was very small.

SAMUEL C. SMITH, Jo. Davis County, Ill.



THE EARLIEST TO MATURE AND THE LARGEST IN YIELD.

We have been in the seed business a great many years. In fact, have spent the greater part of our lives in improving and importing new varieties of farm seeds and helping to better the condition of the farmer, and while we were conscious of the great merits of our New Sensation Oats when we first introduced them ten years ago but little did we think of the unbelievable yield of 210 bushels per acre. One hundred bushels per acre is no uncommon thing for these oats to make under anything like good conditions. ALEX MILLER OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, IOWA, WRITES: "I NEVER SAW ANYTHING TO EQUAL THEM. THEY RUN OUT OF THE SPOUT LIKE A MILL-RACE." ABRAHAM MERRITT OF ENID, OKLAHOMA, SAYS: "THEY ARE THE EARLIEST AND HEAVIEST YIELDING OATS I EVER SAW. I SHALL SOW NO OTHER VARIETY."

Our New Sensation Oats are noted for their rapid and vigorous growth and early maturity. They mature so early that rust does not affect them. They yield from seventy-five to 100 bushels per acre on ordinary land. They are a white oats, grains large and plump, with thin hull, often running overweight from six to ten pounds. When you sow our New Sensation Oats you have an insurance policy on your crop—one that insures you against early drouth, rust or blight; one that always insures you a good crop. They grow medium height, strong, stiff straw, and always stand well upon any kind of land. In short, we believe our New Sensation Oats to be one of the best ever introduced for earliness, enormous yielding qualities and freedom from rust and blight. Hundreds of our customers have written us that on account of stiff straw these oats stood up perfectly under weather that caused other varieties to go down or lodge. We make it possible for every farmer to get a start if not to sow his whole crop to this variety. Our prices on these oats make this possible, and we hope every farmer who grows oats at all will try at least a few bushels of this wonderful variety this coming season. Frank Rockefeller (one of the Standard Oil Company), bought 400 bushels of these oats for his big farm near Wichita, Kan. Read copy of his telegram.

TELEGRAM.

Kansas City, Mo. March 18.—Ratekin's Seed House, Shenandoah, Iowa: Ship to Belvedere, Kansas, 400 bushels New Sensation Oats. Ship via Santa Fe Railroad.—Signed, F. Rockefeller.

There is not a single yield given in our catalogue that some wide-awake farmer did not have, and that you yourself could not have right on your own farm. IF YOU BUT WILL. There is not a question about this. You are or can be just as good farmer as anyone else, if you wish to be, and if you wish good yields you can have them every time, but you must work and think. Plow your ground and prepare it in good order; then get RATEKIN'S RELIABLE and IMPROVED THOROUGHbred SEED. They will astonish you with the big yields you will get. Commence this year. LET THIS BE A NEW ERA. It will pay you. There is a handsome profit in it for you. Big yield means big profits. It is the last ten, twenty or thirty bushels per acre of wheat, corn or oats that gives the profit in your crop. Now, why not have that profit this season?

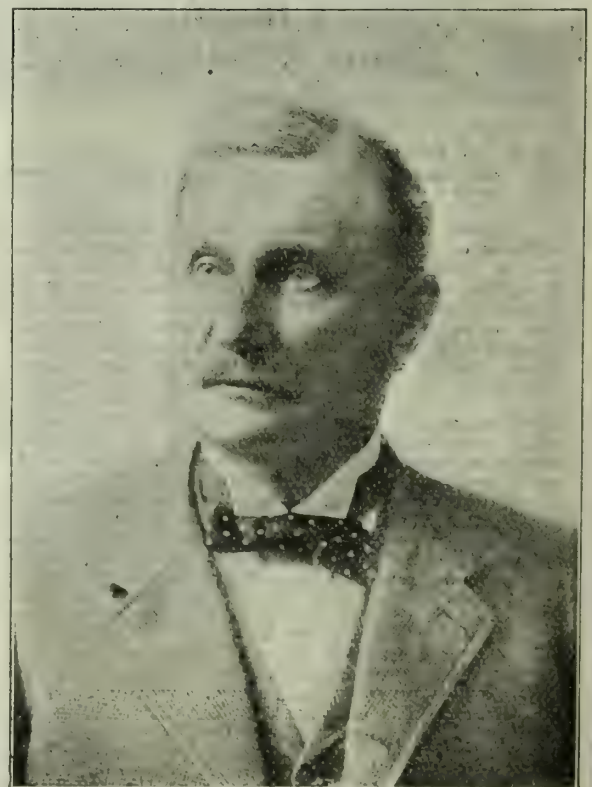
We are placing the price on these oats very low, as we are on all our improved varieties. This, with the superior quality of our oats this year, will justify you in buying all your seed from us. Remember also that every bushel of seed oats sent out by us is thoroughly re-cleaned and graded, absolutely FREE FROM ANY TRASH OR NOXIOUS

WEED SEED WHATEVER, and when you get them they are ready to sow. LOOK AT THESE PRICES: Bu., \$1.00; 10 bu. or more, 90c per bu. Bags free on board cars here.

Black Hawk County, Iowa, Dec. 26th, 1910.

Please send me your new catalogue as soon as ready for mailing. The New Sensation Oats I got from you last spring were really the sensations of this country. They grew five feet high and tops were as level as a pond of water. They ripened July 8th and threshed out ninety-six bushels per acre. How is that? Of course I'm pleased. Send me your 1913 catalogue as soon as ready for mailing.

SAMUEL F. MILLER.



Frank Rockefeller.

Ratekin's New Kherson Oats

(Imported from Russia.)

Without a blemish. Without a flaw. Most wonderful oats. John R. Lang, of Sherman County, Nebraska, raised 112 bushels per acre. John Sipple, of Guthrie County, Iowa, says the Kherson produced double the yield of common oats on his place.

This new variety of oats was discovered by Prof. F. W. Taylor, the superintendent of the Agricultural Department of the great World's Fair of St. Louis, when he was traveling in the province of Kherson, Russia, in 1900. They were first imported into this country and grown at the Nebraska Agricultural Experimental Station, where they proved such a great success they sent out small lots to farmers all over the state and tests everywhere proved that these oats exceeded the highest expectation as to earliness, amount of yield and adaptability to withstand heavy winds and not lodge. The Kherson oats are about three weeks earlier to ripen than ordinary varieties. The plant is a vigorous but somewhat dwarf growth, but shorter or not so tall as later varieties, hence not so liable to lodge. The leaves are broad, frequently three-fourths of an inch wide. They extend to the roots. The straw makes unusual good feed and is eaten greedily by stock. The heads have fine large sprangled full heads, which frequently have more than 100 seeds. A good idea is obtained from the accompanying illustration. We confidently advise our customers to sow liberally of these oats. The Kherson oats will always make you a sure and certain crop whether the season is wet or dry. The demand for these oats has been almost unparalleled and we have been unable to supply the demand for them in the past, but are abundantly supplied this year. They have stood the test on more than 30,000 farms in Nebraska, Iowa and Kansas during the past two years and despite unfavorable conditions have produced heavily everywhere. No sort has so thoroughly and completely shown its capability to withstand drouth or wet weather as the Kherson. It is bug proof and rust proof. It's quick to get there. It's ready to cut, thresh and feed before ordinary sorts are ripe. It gives big yields. It's the last twenty to forty bushels per acre that makes farming profitable. If common oats yield sixty to eighty bushels and the Kherson gives you sixty to ninety bushels, the last thirty or forty bushels are profits.

COST: The price we are offering these oats at is ridiculously low, and every farmer who reads this catalog can afford to try at least a part of his crop to these oats the coming season.

PRICE: 1 to 5 bushels 85c per bushel; 10 to 20 bushels and upward, 80c per bushel. Bags free on board cars here.

Ratekin's Seed House, Shenandoah, Iowa.

York, Nebraska, Sept. 15th.

Gentlemen: The New Kherson Oats I got from you last spring are just what you claimed for them. "They are without a blemish. Without a flaw. The most wonderful oats this country has ever had." I threshed 1,270 bushels from ten acres. How is that? Tell the farmers everywhere to sow the Kherson Oats. There is none like them. The early dry weather done up other sorts here, and I will sell every bushel I have for seed. Yours truly,

JOHN SHUBERT.

Livingston County, Illinois, Oct. 30, 1911.

The New Kherson Oats is all you recommended them to be—iron clad. My crop made seventy-six bushels per acre the past season and ripened two weeks ahead of earliest varieties in this vicinity.

SAMUEL S. SEMELROTH.



New Kherson Oats.



Among all the good varieties of oats don't overlook the Lincoln Oats. Like "Old Abe," they are never found wanting. They are very early and an enormous yielder. These oats were first introduced fifteen years ago and have fully sustained themselves as one of the largest yielders grown. After visiting around and trying many of the so-called new varieties, farmers can safely turn back to them as one of the best standard sorts. It is not claimed for them that they have made 300 bushels yield per acre. This is out of reason and the experience of all practical farmers, but they will run very closely around sixty to eighty bushels per acre under favorable conditions. We have the pure, genuine stock, and considering cleaning and grading we are offering them very cheap.

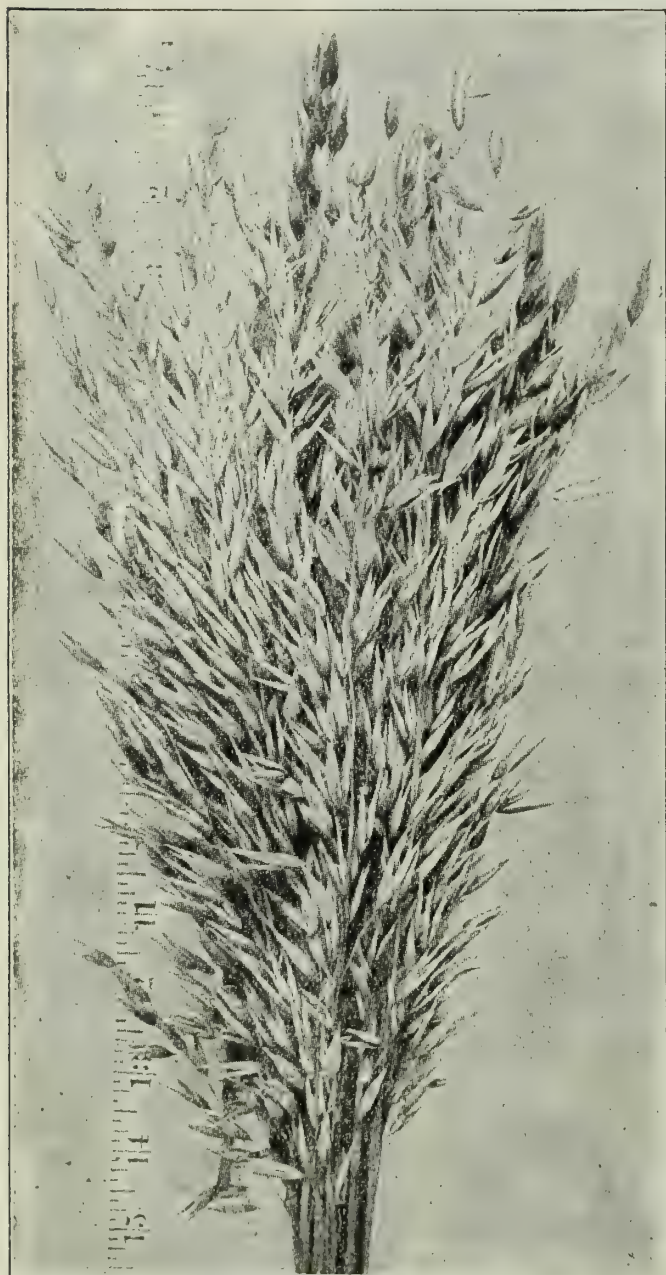
PRICE: Bushel, 90c; 2 bushels, \$1.75; 10 bushels and over, 75c per bushel. Bags free, f. o. b. here.

Ratekin's Early Champion

Time tried, thoroughly tested and always a sure cropper. They are an old, well established and well known sort. Every farmer knows what to depend upon when he sows them, namely: they can always be relied upon for a large yield and a sure crop. In fact, the IOWA EXPERIMENTAL COLLEGE recommends them very highly as among the best yielders and as the best for spring nurse crop to grass and clover. They grow a short, very stiff straw, always stand up well and ripen very early. Wallace's Farmer says: "We would rather risk growing grass with Early Champion and Kherson Oats than any other varieties known or grown." Henry Wallace, editor of Wallace's Farmer, has stated: "I would rather risk growing grass seed with them than with any variety I know of."

PRICE: 1 to 10 bu., \$1.00 per bu.; 10 bu. or over, 90c per bu. Bags free, f. o. b. here.

"The Pure Quill"



Genuine Regenerated Swedish Select.

Regenerated Swedish Select Oats. The Regenerated Swedish Select is the most widely advertised variety and is sold with great claims at extremely high prices by many seedsmen. It is a really valuable variety. The grains are extra heavy, plump and without excess hulls, and we are satisfied that the seed we offer is fully equal to any offered, and we will be pleased to send samples for inspection and comparison. We know that these oats are fully acclimated, have been grown successfully under adverse conditions, that they are not diseased in any way, and know that they will give as good results as the greatly advertised, high-priced seed of this variety.

PRICE: Peck, 45c; bu., \$1.25; 3 bu. or more, \$1.10 per bu.; 10 bu., \$11.00; 25 bu., \$27.50.

Red Rust-Proof Oats. This variety of oats was originated in Grayson County, Texas, and when we were visiting in that state in the early summer of 1898 our attention was brought to these oats. Also one of the finest fields of oats we have ever seen. At the same time other oats crops on every side and everywhere in that part of the country were completely destroyed by rust and blight, and were crinkled down and not worth cutting. We bought the entire product of the field, about 1,800 bushels, and shipped them to Iowa for seed. It was an experiment with us, but we had seen them grown, and knew that with the great success they had attained under the hot, burning sun of that climate what they would do here in the North, and we were not disappointed in the results, and since then we have grown them by hundreds of acres and sold thousands of bushels. Since then these oats have made a wonderful record everywhere, and because of this they are catalogued by most all the seed houses of the country. But it is not untrue to say that more than 75 per cent of all the oats sold under the name of Texas Red Rust-Proof are more or less mixed with other varieties. However, we have always been extremely careful in the threshing handling of our seed crops, and you may depend upon absolutely pure stock when you order your seed from us. As their name implies they are absolutely rust-proof and are the surest cropper grown. They can be sown very early without the same danger of freeze or frost other varieties are subject to, and will ripen and be ready for harvest two weeks earlier than many of the so-called early varieties, and can always be relied upon to give you a yield of from seventy-five to 100 bushels per acre on ordinary good soil.

PRICE: 1 to 10 bu., \$1.00 per bu.; 10 bu. or over, 90c per bu. Bags free, f. o. b. here.

Improved White Russian Oats. The original stock of White Russian Oats was a capital oats, and sprang immediately into great favor. It is quite distinct from most other varieties, being a side or horse mane oats. We now offer White Russian Oats grown in North Dakota in its old-time purity. While Russian is as nearly rust-proof as any oats can well be. It is a good yielder and quite hardy. On account of its ability to withstand unfavorable weather will be found very satisfactory. Pound, 20c, by mail, postpaid; by express or freight, ¼ bushel, 40c; bushel, \$1.00; 10 bushels and over, 90c per bushel. Bags free.

Oats. A change of oats is even more important than a change of seed potatoes, and it will pay you to renew your seed this year by sowing some of our improved varieties and thus increase your yield. Oats grown in the same soil and the same neighborhood year after year will deteriorate rapidly and soon become light and chaffy. Our prices being very low it would pay every farmer to buy new seed stock from us every year.

What Is Speltz? It is the Greatest Grain Crop Grown; Ten Thousand Points in Its Favor and Not One Bad One.

IT IS THE GREATEST GRAIN CROP GROWN: TEN THOUSAND POINTS IN ITS FAVOR AND NOT ONE BAD ONE. A grand, glorious, magnificent small grain—neither wheat, oats, barley, rye or corn, but combines all the food and fattening elements of all of them.



WHAT IS SPELTZ? This question has been asked us many thousand times during the past ten years. **SPELTZ IS A CEREAL TO SOW.** It has **TEN THOUSAND POINTS IN ITS FAVOR AND NOT ONE BAD ONE.** Speltz is good for everything that any and all cereal crops are. It's good for pasture; speltz fattens in the green state. It makes the best of hay cut when in the milk. It grows a 100 leafy stalk from one seed. It's the most profitable hay and grain food combined on earth. It will grow anywhere that any other grain crop will. It's the greatest drouth resister in the world, and yet is never affected by rains, like other grain. It neither rusts, blights or lodges. It matures earlier than oats or spring wheat. It yields ten to twenty bushels more per acre than oats, yielding from fifty to eighty bushels per acre; it's equal to corn, barley, oats, rye as a food for stock. It's the perfection of food for cattle, hogs and horses. Hogs squeal for it; cattle bawl for it, and horses neigh for it. One farmer said: "IF YOU SOW SPELTZ FIVE YEARS YOU CAN WEAR DIAMONDS, and your wife CAN WEAR SILK AND SATIN, and when your friends come to see you, you can take them out in an automobile."

Facts About Speltz. It is the Greatest Drouth Resister of all grain crops grown; it thrives on poor land, on stony ground, in the forest regions, in the prairie deserts. It makes a sure crop with almost any condition of soil, season or climate; endures a great deal of frost. It is not readily damaged by harvest rains; is not susceptible to rust or smuts; yields more than wheat, oats or barley, and is more nutritious than either. Stock like it. If sown for hay crop it is better than the best timothy hay. It fattens all kinds of stock that eat, and is the earliest of all small grain to ripen—to harvest.

Culture of Speltz. The culture of speltz is simplicity itself. Speltz will grow and do well on any kind of ground where anything else will grow. Prepare your ground as you would for wheat or oats and sow at the rate of two bushels or eighty pounds to the acre. We have this year made our prices very low, because we want every farmer who receives this catalogue to try ten or twenty bushels. The more you plant the better pleased you will be.

PRICE: 1 bu., \$1.35; 2 bu., \$2.50; 10 bu., \$1.20 per bu.; 20 bu., \$1.10 per bu. Bags free, f. o. b. Shenandoah.

Ratekin's Giant White Hulless Barley

Some of its valuable properties: It's hulless; it is beardless; it yields good crops on poor land and enormous crops on strong ground; weighs sixty to sixty-four pounds to the measured bushel; it is of inestimable value to everyone who feeds stock of any kind. It ripens very early; it makes better pork than corn. It's sure a very profitable crop for every farmer to grow.



White Hulless. No beards or hulls. The grain looks like wheat. Equal to wheat in feeding value, and will yield twice as much. No barley of which we have knowledge has proved as valuable to the stock raiser as the Improved White Hulless. It is not a malting variety, but for feeding purposes there is no barley raised which can compare with it in earliness, yield and quality.

The grain is exceedingly heavy, weighing from sixty to sixty-three pounds to the measured bushel. The yield varies according to soil and climatic conditions, but it can be depended upon to produce from thirty-five to eighty-bushels an acre. Its nutritive value is very great. It is fed to work-horses at the rate of two quarts where four quarts of oats would be required. The best way is to mix it with oats and grind the two together or soak six hours in water for horse feed. It is also very valuable for feeding poultry, hogs and all kinds of stock. As fattening feed for hogs it has no equal. It makes sweeter meat and nicer lard by far than corn.

It is often grown for hay, coming very early and providing rich feed. It should be cut just before it becomes ripe and while the straw is green. In this condition it is relished by all kinds of stock. The straw is stiff and straight and seldom if ever does it lodge.

There is positively nothing in the world that will give to your cattle better health and add to their weight quicker than the feeding of Giant White Hulless Barley. Indeed, feeding them twice daily on Giant White Hulless Barley and once on corn will add more fat and better fat, and add it quicker and for less money than feeding on corn alone. We know this to be true, because we have demonstrated it repeatedly.

PRICE: Postpaid by mail, 1 lb., 25c; 3 lbs., 60c; 7 lbs., \$1.00. By freight or express, at purchaser's expense: Peck, 75c; $\frac{1}{2}$ bu., \$1.25; 1 bu., \$2.25; 2 bu., \$4.25; 5 bu. and over, \$2.00 per bushel. Bags included, f. o. b. cars here.

Manshury Barley. This grand barley was introduced from Asia by the Ontario Agricultural College several years ago, and is, beyond doubt, one of the most valuable varieties ever introduced into this country, greatly out-yielding the renowned Manshury Barley. It is an early six-rowed variety, maturing in eighty to ninety days from time of sowing, and is adapted to all kinds of soil and climate; is very strong strawed, stools well, and bears large and well filled heads of plump grain, which possess malting qualities of the highest order. Another important factor is its nice and bright color, which will not turn dull and yellow when exposed to rainy weather, as most other varieties do, and on this account it will always be in good demand by the brewers and commands the highest market price. A good malting barley always sells for at least ten to fifteen cents more than discolored and which can only be used for feeding purposes. By growing the Manshury instead of some common variety, one can easily gain from \$5.00 to \$10.00 per acre. 1 lb., 25c; 3 lbs., 65c, postpaid; peck, 45c; bu., \$1.50; 10 bu., \$14.50.

Ratekin's Success Beardless Barley.

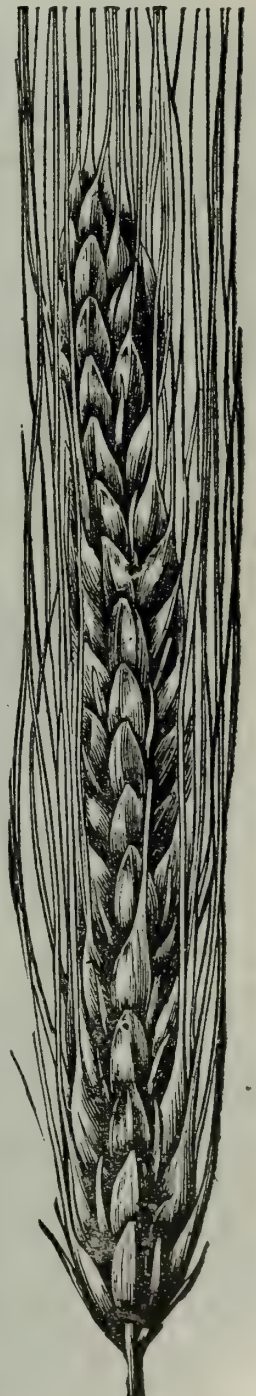
This is a new six-rowed barley, and as the name indicates, without beards, which is the most valuable improvement ever made on barley. It is a vigorous grower, producing strong, short straw and heavy, well filled heads. Its earliness is one of the most important features, as it can be cut and put out of the way before the wheat and oat crop is harvested. On good land it has produced eighty to ninety bushels per acre, and as much as 125 bushels in favorable seasons. In regard to soil, it is not particular, as a good crop of beardless barley can be raised on land too poor to produce a crop of wheat or oats. It is a first-class malting barley, and equally good for feeding stock, therefore always bringing the highest market price. It should not be mistaken for the beardless hulless barley which is described above on this page, and which is grown for feeding purposes only. Ever since this grand new barley was introduced, there has been such a demand for it that we were always short in supplying our trade, and we anticipate another great rush for it this year. Peck, 50c; bu., \$1.60; $2\frac{1}{2}$ bu., \$3.75; 5 bu. and more, \$1.45 per bushel, sacks included.

A GREAT MONEY MAKER FOR THE FARMER.
THE HEAVIEST CROPPER KNOWN.
THE EARLIEST, STRONGEST STRAWED AND
PLUMPEST BERRIED SORT KNOWN.

THE GRANDEST AND BEST YIELDING BARLEY EVER INTRODUCED IN THE UNITED STATES.

A CHANGE OF SEED TO THIS VARIETY WILL MORE THAN DOUBLE YOUR CROPS.

IT CAME OUT ON TOP IN A COMPARATIVE TEST OF THIRTY-SEVEN VARIETIES.



Manshury Barley.

Oderbrucker Barley, (Wis., No. 55)

A Grand 6 Rowed Barley.

Oderbrucker Barley. There is more barley produced in the State of Wisconsin than in any other locality. The reason for this is quite evident. In that state are located the largest breweries in the United States, if not in the world. On account of barley being one of the staple crops, the State Experimental Station of Wisconsin has given particular attention to the breeding of barley to obtain big yields, protein content and other qualities which are essential for both brewing and feeding purposes. Oderbrucker or Wisconsin No. 55 is considered the best variety of barley sent out by the Wisconsin Station. Prof. Moore declares it to be superior to the Manshury, yielding five to ten bushels more per acre. The original stock of this barley was obtained in Germany by the Ontario Agricultural College, from which place the Wisconsin Experiment Station procured a small supply. By them it was greatly improved and then disseminated. Oderbrucker is a stiff-strawed, heavy-yielding six-rowed bearded variety. It is about the same as Manshury in time of maturity, manner of growth and general appearance, but has a plumper kernel and weighs more to the measured bushel. Prof. Moore says: "In stiffness of straw and rust resistance it is superior to any other variety on test."

It has protein content of fifteen per cent, or nearly double the amount of protein found in many other varieties. This makes it a very valuable feeding barley, which is an important consideration with the leading farmers and stockmen, who are now appreciating more and more the value of barley as a feed for all kinds of stock, horses as well as cattle. On account of its large percentage of protein, it is also one of the best malting barleys.

OUR SEED BARLEY, of all varieties, was **GROWN FROM SPECIALLY SELECTED STOCK** and can be depended upon to be of pure varieties and of the highest and best grade obtainable anywhere; is also well cleaned, plump and of fine bright color.

PRICE: Lb., postpaid, 20c. By freight or express, purchaser's expenses: Peck, 50c; $\frac{1}{2}$ bu., 90c; 1 bu., \$1.60; 5 to 10 bu. and over, \$1.50 per bushel. Bags free, f. o. b. Shenandoah.

CHANGE YOUR SEED WHEAT.

Spring Wheat. Pedigreed Stock.

PRICES: We are obliged to ask a considerable advance over the market price for our High Grade Seed Wheat. There is very much larger cost attached to its production and preparation than anyone who has not had the experience could possibly appreciate. Space does not permit of going into detail, but, as a matter of fact, the prices named below for the larger quantities represent but a slight advance over the actual cash outlay to us. We believe that farmers who want to change their seed will find it very much to their advantage to secure enough, at least, to give them a start.

Sow Only Pure-Bred Varieties. All reliable authorities agree that pure well bred seed produces from five to ten bushels better yield per acre under ordinary conditions than mixed or mongrel varieties, and it always commands from five to fifteen cents per bushel more on the local market than mongrel sorts, simply because there is that much difference in the markets at the great milling centers.

Iowa Chief. This variety of spring wheat has been selected and bred by us and our seed stock grown under our own personal supervision until it has attained such a high standard and quality that we feel justly entitled to give it a distinct name and brand. All who have seen this wheat, both the grain and the crops while growing, compliment us on its superior quality and yield, also fine appearance. It is as nearly pure as wheat can be and by cross breeding we have produced one of the most vigorous strains of spring wheat we have ever seen, which goes far in increasing the yield, its early maturity and reducing the damage by rust, bugs and storms. It is a hard bearded variety, the kind that produces the best milling wheat and finest flour that can be made in the world, as well as the most pounds to the bushel. In addition to this it is adapted to any place or locality where spring or winter wheat can be successfully grown.

PRICE: Lb., mail postpaid, 20c; 3 lbs., 50c. By express or freight, purchaser's expense: Peck, 65c; bu., \$2.10; 2 bu., \$2.00 per bu.; 6 to 10 bu. and over, \$1.90 per bu. Bags free, f. o. b. Shenandoah.

Ratekin's Big Red Fife Spring Wheat. This is the wheat used in the Orange Judd Farmer contest of 1906, and is stock selected by Prof. Shaw and the Orange Judd Farmer and American Agriculturist as being the purest and healthiest stock of hard wheat to be obtained anywhere at any price. It is the wheat that made Minneapolis flour famous and is undoubtedly the finest stock of milling wheat in existence.

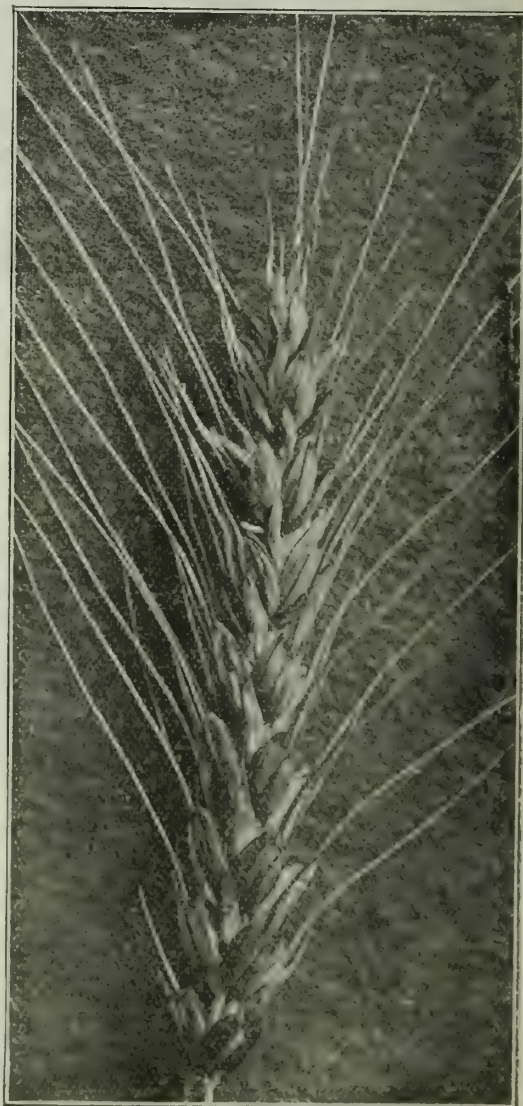
PRICE: 1 bushel, \$1.75; 10 bushels and over, \$1.60.

Minnesota No. 163 Fife Wheat. Of the many crosses obtained within the past twelve years, the one sent out by the station as Minnesota No. 163 takes a high rank. The heads are long, well filled with medium sized, plump kernels. Flour made from this variety shows a higher gluten test than most sorts. The straw is medium height, very strong and wiry. At the station farm this variety averaged two to five bushels an acre more than the Fife and Blue Stem varieties. The average yield of Minnesota No. 163 Wheat for the past thirteen years has been 26.4 bushels an acre. This tells a story which should interest every intelligent grower of spring wheat. Our crop was grown in North Dakota on land which had not grown wheat for a number of years, and is pure.

Price: By freight or express, at purchaser's expense: 1 bu., \$1.75; 2 bu., \$3.40; 10 bu., \$1.60. Bags free.

Macaroni Spring Wheat. Grand Macaroni Wheat! Noble Macaroni Wheat! The only wheat that defies rust, that fearful scourge. Marvelous Wheat, Macaroni! The wonderful wheat defying all climates and climatical conditions, disease, insects and rust; yes, everything, a yield bordering on the marvelous! Macaroni, or Durum Wheat; a Great Drought Resister; Rust Proof. Sent out by the United States Department of Agriculture, under strong recommendation as to its great value for semi-arid land where good crops of spring wheat cannot be grown or produced under ordinary conditions and it has more than justified every claim made for it. Yields fifty per cent greater than any other variety of wheat. Many farmers report enormous yields. One writes, "I obtained sixty-two bushels to the acre, another seventy-one, another fifty-two, another forty-eight and another forty-nine." It is always a sure cropper anywhere and everywhere and will mature in a shorter period than any other variety of spring wheat. It is especially adapted to the Dakotas, Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska, Colorado, New Mexico, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas and Arizona. It does well on poor land and gives enormous yields on good soil. The grain is very hard and closely woven, translucent, and rather large. Heads bearded, compactly formed and well-filled. It may be sown in Oklahoma, Texas and that latitude in the fall; in the north it should be sown just as early in the spring as conditions will permit. It requires $1\frac{1}{2}$ bushels to the acre.

PRICE: Lb., by mail, 25c; 3 lbs., 60c. By express or freight, expense of purchaser: Peck, 50c; $\frac{1}{2}$ bu., 90c; 1 bu., \$1.60; 3 bu., \$1.55 per bu.; 10 bu. and over, \$1.50 per bu. Bags free.



Iowa Chief Spring Wheat.

Winter Seed Wheat



Prize Winner, Malakoff, Karakoff and Turkey Red.

THE ONLY VARIETIES OF HARD WHEAT TO SOW.
IN SOFT BEARDLESS VARIETIES NOTHING EQUALS

RATEKIN'S HARDY NORTHERN GROWN FULTZ.

SOW ONLY PURE-BRED VARIETIES.

WHAT A FEW OF THE BEST AUTHORITIES SAY:

H. M. COTTRELL, Agricultural Commissioner, says: "Well bred seed wheat is hardier and will stand greater extremes of drouth, cold and flood than mongrel wheat. Where wheats are mixed and grown together the mongrel or bastard strain predominates, and flour made from such wheat the world over lacks strength." "Heavy seed wheat has given increased yields per acre over light seed at all experimental stations." "Plump heavy seed produce strong vigorous plants, and the more unfavorable the conditions the better the odds in favor of the well graded heavy seed."

The loss of money from sowing mixed and mongrel wheat affects every man, woman and child in every state, whether they live on farms or in town.

Every farmer, every business man, the newspapers of every wheat growing state, farmer's institutes, banks, commercial clubs, millers and grain shippers should join in the movement to get every bushel of wheat sown this year **PURE BRED AND SEEDED IN PROPERLY PREPARED GROUND.** If everyone will take hold at once, it will add millions of dollars to the value of the wheat crop.

Prof. Harvey says: "We use the best seed we can find and fan and grade it thoroughly, so each grain will grow a strong stalk."

Prof. Kruger says: "I use and grow the Kharkof only. Since up-to-date it is the greatest drouth resisting variety known. For the past five years I have raised forty-five, forty-four thirty, forty and forty bushels per acre on same kind of land some of my neighbors get but fifteen to twenty bushels per acre from and when they do I have forty and forty-five bushels per acre."

(Note—Mr. Kruger lives in Ellis County, Kansas. The average yield of wheat in Ellis County is about ten bushels per acre).



A Photograph of an 80-acre field of Ratekin's Malakoff, which made 52 bu. to the acre, grown in 1912 by John McLaren, Fremont County, Iowa.

Iowa State College Experiment Station, Ames, Ia.
Gentlemen: Have just finished compiling data of winter wheat. We find the New Malakoff furnished by you came first in yield among ten varieties grown here. Sowed 1½ bushels to acre, good stand; 93 per cent plants came through the winter strong and vigorous. L. S. KLINCK.

Illinois Agricultural Experimental Station,
Urbana, Illinois.

Yours of the 12th inst. at hand. The Malakoff among the best varieties and largest yielders on our plots this year. ALBERT N. HUME.

Gasconade County, Mo., 17th, 1912.

Please send me copy of your descriptive price list on winter seed wheat. The seed wheat I got from you two years ago made the best crop of wheat I have ever grown. It made Seventy Bushels to the Acre. If any of your customers have grown a larger yield than this, please let me know who, when and where. Send me samples of any new importations you have made, as I wish to place an order with you at once. Respectfully, AUGUST F. HOCH, Jr.

Nebraska Agricultural Station, Lincoln, Neb.

Replying to yours or recent date, would say the Malakoff gave excellent satisfaction. As regard yields, one the best of four or five varieties tested. T. L. LYEN.

RATEKIN'S NEW GRAND PRIZE WINNER: Famous, Marvel, Grand New Variety of Winter Wheat; imported from Russia in 1909.

RATEKIN'S NEW MALAKOFF. Imported by the RATEKIN'S SEED HOUSE, from Russia, in 1902 and harvested our first crop in 1904. In 1907 it made the enormous yield of sixty-two bushels per acre, and the following year from twenty acres of measured ground it threshed out 1,192 bushels, or an average yield of over 59½ bushels per acre, proving the highest yielding hard wheat ever grown in this country.

RATEKIN'S NEW PRIZE WINNER MALAKOFF, KHARKOF and TURKISH RED stand first and at the head of all hard varieties. All are extremely hardy, and will resist more unfavorable conditions than any varieties in existence. They will do well anywhere rye will succeed.

Mammoth Wonder White Rye

Mammoth Wonder White Rye. We consider winter rye one of the most important of all farm crops. In the first place it is a sure crop, failures being almost unknown. Every farmer should have at least a few acres of it. It is usually sown in the fall, and as it grows very vigorously will furnish pasture till late in the fall, and also early in the spring before other grasses have made a growth. So it is of great value to dairy farmers. If sown early in the spring it makes an early and abundant pasture, but makes no grain crop. Our Mammoth Wonder Rye is of extra quality. We are sure it will please you, no matter whether you want it for pasture or grain crop. As grown for the grain alone it will yield great returns and make money for you. As much as sixty bushels per acre have been procured. Peck, 50c; bu., \$1.40; 2 bu. or more at \$1.35; 10 bu. or more at \$1.25.

Mammoth Spring Rye. I want to tell you something about Spring Rye, and that is: "It's a money-maker in the fullest sense of the word! The yield is always big and the demand growing with each season. Spring Rye would be ashamed of itself to yield less than forty bushels per acre—and at that yield ten acres will pay you handsomely."

This magnificent rye is of recent introduction, and it has proven to many of our farmer customers a sure money-maker, a big money-maker, and an easy money-maker, as good Spring Rye brought almost as good a price as wheat and yielded from ten to thirty bushels per acre more. The price is seldom below 60 cents per bushel, while the yield rarely falls below forty bushels per acre. We have but a few thousand bushels of this Rye, and we request all our farmer customers to order early, as it is the early bird that catches this Rye, as later on in the season it will surely be sold. It can be sown at the same time when Spring Wheat is sown, at the rate of about two bushels per acre, if sown alone, but it is much used as a forage crop and grown together with vetches and oats. It can be sown later than other spring grain and on that account it is much used as a catch crop where winter grain has been killed out.

Spring Rye is more productive than any Winter Rye and the grain is of finer quality.
PRICE OF OUR MAMMOTH SPRING RYE: Packet, 5c; lb., 25c; 3 lbs., 60c; postpaid. By freight, peck, 60c; bu., \$1.75; 2 bu. or more at \$1.65; 10 bu., or more at \$1.60 per bushel.

Forage and Fodder Plants

Dwarf Essex Rape. THE MOST PROFITABLE PASTURE PLANT IN EXISTENCE.

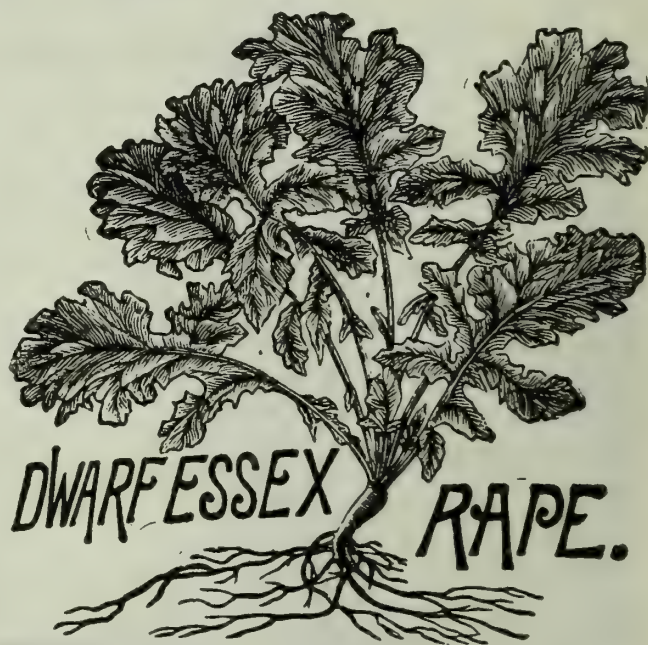
Come here, Mr. Farmer, until we tell you about Dwarf Essex Rape. One acre of Dwarf Essex Rape will pasture more hogs, cattle and sheep than six of clover or grass. As a healthy fattening pasture food it has no equal. It stands without a rival in point of cheapness and effectiveness.

It is an annual, bearing a close resemblance in leaf and stalk to the Ruta Baga, but both leaves and stalk are more numerous in the Rape plant, and of a taller habit of growth. It is a pasture plant which may be eaten off by any kind of live stock, but it is pre-eminently fitted to furnish pasture for sheep, cattle and swine.

A good crop will furnish at least 12 tons of green food, and its nutritive value is twice that of clover an acre. One acre of well grown Rape will furnish pasture for ten to twenty head of sheep for two months, and in that time it will fatten them in good form for market.

Uses: Dwarf Essex Rape thrives best on a good soil, rich in vegetable matter. Slough lands are excellent. This plant may be grown successfully in the following ways, viz: 1. In the early spring to provide pasture. 2. In June or July, on well prepared land to provide pasture. 3. Along with grain, using 5 lbs. of seed an acre, to provide pasture for sheep after harvest. 4. Along with peas, oats, clover seed, to provide pasture and to get a "catch" of clover. 5. As a cover in the orchard for winter protection to avoid root-killing. 6. In corn, sowing the seed with the last cultivation; the succulent feed produced may save the loss of cattle by corn stalk disease. Prevention is better than medicine in treating this fatal disease. 7. Along with Rye, sown in August, in sheep pasture. 8. On early plowed fields to shade the land and so that the soil will not leach, wash or drift. 9. To plow under as a green crop, adding humus to the soil, an element needed in grain growing sections. When rape is sown broadcast 5 lbs. of seed an acre will suffice. When sown in rows, say thirty inches apart, and cultivated, 2 lbs. an acre will be enough. Hundreds of farmers have written us asking methods of rape culture. Why, it's the simplest crop grown in the world. You can sow it anywhere and everywhere, and at all times after danger of frost is past until September 1st, later in the South. We have hundreds of customers who sow fifty to 500 pounds each year. Rape is adapted as a catch crop and may be sown in the early spring to provide summer pasture for stock. Plow the ground same as for turnips and sow five pounds per acre broadcast, or can be sown in corn and plowed in last plowing. Then after you have cut small grain sow in stubble, running disc over the ground to give light covering. There is nothing so easily and profitably grown, and practically at no cost. Sow Rape; it will please and profit you. Our seed is pure Dwarf Essex, imported direct from Essex, England, new crop grown.

PRICE: 1 lb., by mail, postpaid, 25c; 5 lbs. (will sow an acre), \$1.00. By freight or express at purchaser's expense: 10 lbs., \$1.00; 25 lbs., \$2.25; 50 lbs., \$4.50; 100 lbs., \$8.00. Bags free.



A Word About Our Rape Seed. Some firms ask less money for their Rape Seed than we do. We pay a premium for our seed in order to get the purest, cleanest and best, and it has always given the greatest satisfaction. A saving of a cent or two a pound means from 3 to 10 cents an acre. We do not feel that for this difference between the price of known and unknown seed, seed that is proven good, and seed that may or may not be good, that we are justified in taking this risk or expecting our customers to do so.

Pencilaria. A WONDERFUL FODDER PLANT. A new fodder plant of untold value. To the farmer for its immense growth of hay; for its excellent fodder; for its quick growing foliage. It is a native of Central America. It is an annual plant, having broad foliage, very much resembling corn leaves. If cut as soon as it reaches the height of two or three feet it can be mowed from four to six times, according to the latitude. If allowed to grow twelve or eighteen feet high and cut when the flower heads begin to develop it will yield the heaviest fodder crop per acre of any plant now in cultivation. For feeding it is equal to any fodder, and is relished by any kind of stock, either dry or green.

ENORMOUS GROWER.

It should be planted six inches apart in the row and the rows about $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet apart. Cultivate two or three times if possible, and by that time the sight will astonish the beholder, and you will marvel at its luxuriance, and your wonder will but then begin. It will average forty rich, juicy, leafy stalks to the plant. Sow as early as you would Indian Corn. The usual way of growing it, however, is to mow same when three to six feet high, and it will immediately start again and can be mowed four to six times during the season. Every farmer, everyone who keeps cows, horses and hogs should try it. Sow in drills five to six pounds, or broadcast, eight pounds per acre.

PRICE: Pkg., 5c; 1 lb., 25c, postpaid. By express: 1 lb., 15c; 10 lbs., \$1.30; 50 lbs., \$6.00.



Forage and Fodder Plants

Ratekin's Teosinte.

"This is a plant which affords the opportunity for one to make millions of blades of grass grow where none of any account grew before." This is what Prof. Aasa Gray said of Teosinte. The plant came to us from the fertile plains of the Nile, where travelers tell us the enormous yield of 300 tons of green fodder per acre is not uncommon. Here in America, too, its yields have been marvelous. At the experimental stations of Louisiana, Mississippi, Georgia and Florida it has always given the heaviest yields of any of the forage crops grown. Georgia reports 38,000 pounds of green forage per acre; Mississippi, 44,000 pounds; Louisiana, the enormous amount of over 100,000 pounds. Its yields here in the north are not as large, but, nevertheless, this plant yields here a much greater amount per acre than either corn or any sorghum variety. It is a remarkably vigorous grower, reaching twelve to eighteen feet in height, with an unusually abundant supply of leaves and tender stems, which continue to grow until killed by frost. Quite often a single kernel will produce as much as sixty to one hundred stalks of the most nourishing green fodder imaginable. If cut when it reaches four to five feet in height it makes excellent fodder and will produce a second crop fully as large as the first. If left to grow until September or October it furnishes excellent material for the silo in much greater amount than any other forage crop; and there is no other plant which is its equal for soiling purposes. Its leaves are similar to those of sorghum, but much longer, and the stalks contain from eight to ten per cent of sugar. Its value for feeding and soiling is apparent from the fact that the entire crop of fifty tons per acre which was grown at the Louisiana Experiment Station was sold to dairymen at the rate of \$2.00 per ton while standing in the field. Teosinte thrives best in a long season of hot weather, on rich soil with abundant moisture.

CULTURE OF TEOSINTE: We would advise sowing same in hills four to five feet apart each way about corn planting time, and cultivate the crop like corn. The greater distance should be given on richer soil. It wants plenty of sunshine and cultivation and then it will grow so rapidly that it will soon cover a whole acre and look like a dense forest. It can be cut with a reaper and fed in the green state, it can be dried and makes a magnificent fodder for cattle during the winter months. There are unlimited possibilities for our annual fodder plant, Teosinte, and we know if you will give it a trial that it will more than pay you another year. Just try and grow this for your cattle and hogs. You will be surprised how they relish it, and what a tremendous amount of fodder you will get out of an acre.

PRICE: Package, 10c; oz., 15c; ¼ lb., 30c; ½ lb., 55c; lb., \$1.00; 2 lbs., enough for one acre, \$1.90; 10 lbs., \$9.00, postpaid.



Teosinte.



Early Amber Cane.

Barbara Frye,
Millersburg, Ohio:

"The Teosinte is excellent. It grew from ten to twelve feet high and from forty to fifty pounds from one kernel of seed."

Joe A. Noble,
Caddo, Ky., says:
"Am well pleased with Teosinte as a fodder plant. I grew from one kernel of seed 113 stalks fourteen feet high. That is immense."

J. Roppel, Montgomery County, Mo.
"Teosinte is a great fodder plant, and am wonderfully pleased with it. Forty tons of magnificent fodder to the acre is my yield."



Milo Maize.

John Urhin,
Coesfield, Tex., says: "Teosinte is simply immense. It did not seem to care whether the drouth struck it or not and kept right on growing. It did not have any rain for ten weeks, but the 26th day of July we had a good rain. Now, you think it is not growing, but it is. One stalk of it grew eleven inches in thirty-six hours. On one plant raised from one kernel of seed I got sixty-four storns, bushy stalks."



Kaffir Corn.

NOTE: The sorghums all have better drought resisting qualities than Indian corn. The varieties are many, and may be classed as saccharine and non-saccharine (sweet and non-sweet). The first group includes sugar cane, etc.; the second group, Milo Maize, Jerusalem Corn, Kaffir Corn, etc. Within recent years dairymen have widely recognized the high economic value of thickly sown sorghum as a summer food for milch cows.

Early Amber Cane is the most valuable fodder plant in existence for their use. Notwithstanding its great adaptability as a food for live stock it is only quite recently that the real value of sorghum (or sugar cane) has attracted general attention. Its great merit is now beginning to be appreciated. It is of the very best quality, being sweet, tender, nutritious and greedily eaten by cattle, horses and hogs. Dairymen find that the cows will give more and richer milk from its use and it is claimed that as high as ten tons of fodder have been grown per acre. It can be grown successfully in any part of the country, from Canada to Texas, and from the Atlantic to the Pacific. It is one of the best plants to withstand drouth and unfavorable weather, and is therefore a comparatively sure crop, and a larger crop is often produced from one acre than from three to five acres in hay. It is usually put in during the first half of June, sowing 100 pounds per acre, broadcast, or sixty to seventy-five pounds per acre if sown with a wheat drill. Cut in September or just before frost with a mower and cure like hay, or with a binder and stand the bundles up. Many varieties of cane are used, but we consider either the Black Seeded or Red Seeded Amber the most desirable. If wanted for sorghum purposes we recommend sowing the Kenney's, which is purer, but the cheaper grade is about as desirable for fodder purposes. Price is subject to market changes, but it usually advances later in the season.

Per lb., 20c; 3 lbs., 50c. By freight: 10 lbs., 40c; 25 lbs., 75c; 100 lbs., \$3.00; 500 lbs. or more, at \$2.50.

Yellow Milo Maize. A non-saccharine sorghum of high value; cultivated like corn. It is a vigorous grower, of deep green color, attaining a height of eight or ten feet. Some stalks develop twenty heads. The seed is fed to horses, cattle, chickens, etc. It will mature its main head in 100 days, and will continue growing until frost. Plant four to five pounds per acre.

Packet, 10c; lb., 25c; 3 lbs., 65c, postpaid. By express or freight, not prepaid, peck, 85c; bu., \$3.00.

Jerusalem Corn. This non-saccharine sorghum is one of the best and surest grain crops for dry countries and seasons. It grows about three feet high and makes one large main head and several smaller ones. The grain is pure white, and a good food for man or beast. Use three pounds of seed per acre.

Packet, 10c; lb., 25c; 3 lbs., 65c, postpaid. By express or freight, not prepaid, peck, \$1.00; bu., \$3.50.

Kaffir Corn. This is a most excellent fodder plant, yielding two crops of fodder during a season. It grows from five to six feet high, making a straight, upright growth. The stem or stalk bears numerous wide leaves. The stalks keep green and are brittle and juicy, making excellent fodder either green or dried. The seed crop is also heavy, sometimes yielding sixty bushels to the acre. Both grain and fodder are excellent. The stalk remains tender to full maturity of the seed. There is no failure about it, as it possesses the quality that all the tribe possess of going without rain without any loss of capacity of yield. The grain is extremely valuable for feeding to poultry and will make a flour that is like wheat. Cultivated the same as our common Indian corn, requiring five pounds of seed per acre. For fodder sow one-half to one bushel, either broadcast or in drills.

Packet, 5c; lb., 20c; 3 lbs., 50c. By freight, peck, 40c; bu., \$1.35; 2 bu. or more, at \$1.25.

Ratekin's Panicum Crusgalli

The Great Oriental Grass Yields 10 to 15 Tons of Fodder to the Acre.



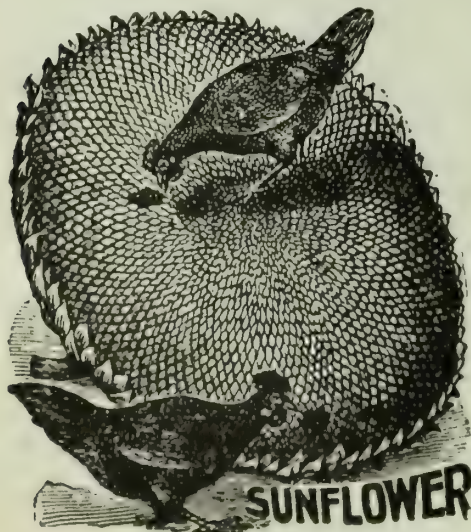
Panicum Crusgalli.

grown in favor wherever tried. It improves the soil, being a great nitrogen gatherer. It belongs to the pea family, but the vines are much longer and the foliage is more abundant. It may be sown either in the spring or fall with about half a bushel of rye or oats for support. It grows rapidly and is particularly valuable in sections where clover does not thrive. In the North it remains green all winter under the snow, and it is invaluable for early pasturing or soiling. The Department of Agriculture estimates the value of an acre of this vetch plowed under equal to commercial fertilizer at the rate of from \$16 to \$40 an acre. When sown in August or September it covers the ground before frost and prevents leaching of the soil during the winter and spring. When sown in April or May it can be cut in July, the second growth affording excellent pasture during the summer. The yield of green fodder is from twelve to twenty tons an acre. When raised for hay it should be left standing until some seeds have become well formed. Sow forty-five to sixty pounds of vetch and with it half a bushel of rye to the acre. Large pkt., 5c; lb., 25c, postpaid. By freight, lb., 18c; 10 lbs., \$1.60; 100 lbs., \$15.00. Bags free.

A WORD ABOUT PRICES on Millets and Vetch: Prices named above are the prevailing prices at time this catalogue goes to press, January 1st, but are subject to fluctuating market prices. Our prices are always in line with any other reliable seed house, and it would be well to write for firm prices before ordering in large quantities.

Mammoth Russian Sunflower. Sunflower seed is one of the best egg producing foods for poultry. It can be sown any time before the middle of July. Plant in hills $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 feet apart each way, or in drills. Seeds are the best of food for poultry, and is much cheaper to raise than corn.

Only those who have tried it realize what an important crop the sunflower proves to the poultry and hog raiser. The poultry man well knows the egg producing properties of sunflower seed. It is also very fattening and contains a very high percentage of protein. Sow the seed in rows far enough apart to admit of cultivation. Two to three pounds will plant an acre. The plants will grow from six to ten feet high and will be literally covered with large heads well filled with seed. In feeding to both poultry and hogs all that is necessary is to allow them to help themselves. Large pkt., 5c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 10c; lb., 25c, postpaid. By express or freight, lb., 15c; 5 lbs., 60c; 10 lbs., \$1.00.



Artichoke Roots. THE NEW LARGE JERUSALEM VARIETY,

producing from 300 to 600 bushels per acre. An excellent food for cattle, sheep and milch cows; they are for the production of milk equal if not superior to bran. But their greatest value is food for hogs. Even the labor of feeding is avoided, as the hogs will help themselves if allowed to do so. We consider them the cheapest and healthiest hog food possible to raise, and find that where brood sows have free access to artichokes they and their pigs invariably do well. Hogs will not only grow, but fatten on them.

PLANTING, CULTURE, PRICES, ETC.: Artichokes need planting but once and little or no culture after the first year. Cut as potatoes, only smaller; plant in rows $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet apart. Plow deep, plant shallow, say two inches; the second year break up the ground as for corn; will come up thick all over the surface.

PRICE: 1 lb., 30c; 4 lbs., \$1.00, by mail, postpaid. By freight or express: 1 bu., \$2.60; 5 bu., \$2.50 per bushel. (Three bushels sufficient for one acre).

Make the Land Produce EVERY POUND OF FEED PER ACRE THAT YOU CAN. Every plant that will conserve other crops raised on a farm is of material advantage to the farmer. In this department will be found a number of items which, if properly used, will solve the problem of feed for the live stock when corn, hay and pasture are short from any cause. Amber cane or Kaffir corn for fodder; rape or kale for pasturage; vetch or field peas for hay can be used by any farmer in the corn belt with profit. All may be siloed with corn to advantage.

Panicum Crusgalli. RATEKIN'S LATEST INTRODUCTION. MORE NUTRITIOUS THAN OATS, CORN OR ENSILAGE. A new grass, imported by us from the sunny Isles of Japan. Our attention was first called to this grass by Japanese authorities, who recommended it very highly for feeding dairy cattle, young stock and sheep, it being very rich in protein and nutritious elements.

At our trial grounds, on our farms, it has proven a wonderful success as a forage plant and far beyond our best expectations, producing fifty bushels of seed, 30,000 pounds of green fodder, 10,000 pounds straw, 11,000 pounds hay to the acre, and has proven to be equal to alfalfa hay and superior to corn fodder or ensilage or oats for feeding milch cows; also other stock. If sown in the South, Oklahoma, Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi and that latitude the last of April it will be ready to cut for hay the middle of July. In the North, in Iowa, Nebraska, Illinois and other northern states, it should not be sown until about any time in May, dependent on the seasons and latitude where sown. It attains a height of 5 to 8 feet, according to the season, and when desired for hay should be cut just when the heads begin to appear and before the seed begin to form. We can fully recommend this new annual grass, and want to urge and insist on all our customers and friends to at least make a trial of it. Sown broadcast requires eighteen to twenty pounds; drilled twelve to sixteen pounds to the acre.

PRICE: By mail, postpaid, per lb., 50c; 3 lbs., \$1.25. By express or freight, expense of purchaser, 10 lbs., \$2.50; 25 lbs., \$5.00.

Sand or Hairy Vetch Has Come to Stay

Sand or Winter Vetch. (Vicia Villosa), called Hairy Vetch. This very valuable forage plant is rapidly becoming more popular each year, as farmers are learning more of its great value. It is very hardy, is valuable. As its name implies, "Sand Vetch" seems to be especially adapted to light, sandy and poor soils too poor to produce good crops of cow peas, soy beans or crimson clover, but will respond much more liberally on stronger and better lands.

As our country grows older our lands become more and more impoverished by constant cropping, the accumulated humus of past ages is used up, the land becomes hard and unfriable, will not hold moisture; and as a result we are reaping small crops, and occasionally a total failure. This plant was introduced originally from Russia, where it seems to be a native, and has been used as a hay and fertilizer crop for a great many years. Since its introduction a few years ago it has steadily



Winter Sand Vetch.

Beets and Mangel Wurzels are Corn Savers



Extensively Grown

In all parts of the country for feeding stock. Sow in April or May, in drills 18 inches apart, and thin to six inches in the row. If your soil is deep and mellow, plant the long varieties; if shallow, the round kinds will do better. No crop pays the farmer and stock raiser better than mangels; 1,000 bushels to the acre is an ordinary yield, while with good culture 2,000 bushels have been grown to this amount of ground. It costs, counting labor, use of ground and everything, less than \$25.00 to raise an acre of mangels and gather and store them. This, for an ordinary yield, is a cost of only five cents per bushel. They make the cheapest of foods for all kinds of live stock—horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, chickens, etc. Easily grown, and they help to keep stock in good condition and free from disease. Dairymen claim that a bushel of mangels and a bushel of corn are worth more than two bushels of corn. Use five pounds to an acre. Prices quoted by express are not prepaid.

COLLECTION OF MANGELS: One ounce each of the eight varieties of mangels and sugar beets for 35c; ¼ lb. of each, \$1.25; lb. of each, \$3.50, postpaid, or \$3.00 by express, not prepaid.

The Mammoth Long Red Wurzels, called by some seedsmen Jumbo Mangels, and others call them by other names, but they are all the same. There is no root crop grown, if any other crop of any sort, so profitable for stock feeding purposes as Mangel Wurzel Beets, and they are so easy to raise we can't understand why every farmer who raises hogs, or keeps milch cows, do not grow them. They yield all the way from twenty to sixty tons per acre and are the most healthy diet for hogs during the winter when they are deprived of clover and grass, and are equally good and valuable for milch cows and other cattle. Two bushels of beets with one bushel of corn will go further, make more growth and fat or milk than three bushels of corn, and will besides keep your hogs and other stock in healthy, thriving condition. They usually grow to an average weight of twenty to forty pounds each, and I have had reports of where they attained as high as ninety to 104 pounds. I will tell you how to plant these **CORN SAVERS** that make your **HOGS HEALTHY AND FAT**. Plant from first of April to last of June, in rows eighteen inches apart. It requires only five pounds of seed to plant an acre. After they are well started, thin out until the plants stand about six inches apart in the row. If too thin in spots, they will bear transplanting. Pull them and store them in a cellar where they will not freeze and mix some pulverized soil with them and a little over them and they will keep in good condition for feeding until grass comes in the spring.

PRICE: Postpaid by mail or express prepaid, 60c per lb.; 5 lbs. (enough for one acre of ground), \$3.00. By freight or express, your expense, 5 lbs., \$2.00.



Mammoth Golden Giant.

An improvement on the long, yellow mangel, being of considerably greater size, more even in shape, rather elongated, of vigorous growth; it has a fine neck and a very smooth skin; flesh white, firm and sweet; much liked by cattle; a magnificent root, easily lifted from the ground, producing enormous crops. Excellent keepers; yields forty to sixty tons per acre. Per oz., 5c; ¼ lb., 25c; lb., 60c. By express, not prepaid, 5 lbs., \$2.00.

Champion Yellow Globe.

Finest type of yellow globe in cultivation. Roots immense size, fine shape, small tap root, neat top. Flesh being very firm and fine grained, renders it an excellent keeping variety. Well adapted to shallow soils and has a record of producing **106 TONS PER ACRE**. This immense crop was grown by sowing seed in drills 14 inches apart and thinning to 10 inches in the row. Our seed of this variety is particularly choice. Per oz., 5c; ¼ lb., 25c; lb., 60c. By express, 5 lbs., \$2.00.

Golden Tankard.

Best for dairy farming. Considered indispensable among English dairy farmers; it is stated by them they are able to obtain a higher price for milk when feeding cows on Golden Tankard. Sheep thrive on it. Other mangels cut white, circled with yellow, but this is of a rich, deep yellow throughout. Early, hardy and a heavy cropper, for on account of its shape the roots can be left standing close in rows. Per oz., 5c; ¼ lb., 25c; lb., 60c. By express, 5 lbs., \$2.00.

Crimson Tankard.

A fine new sort like above, but of crimson color. Per oz., 5c; ¼ lb., 25c; lb., 60c. By express, 5 lbs., \$2.00.

Danish Sugar Beet.

An improved strain of the White French Red Top Sugar Beet, which is wonderfully fine for feeding to milch cows, and will add greatly to the milk production as well as to its richness. It will yield as much as most varieties of mangels, and we consider it of superior feeding value. Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 25c; lb., 75c. By express, 5 lbs. or more at 50c per lb.

Giant Half Sugar Mangel.

This is a hybrid or cross between the Mammoth Long Red Mangel and Sugar Beet, and for our own feeding we have found it superior to either. Being sweeter, both cattle and hogs relish them. Per oz., 5c; ¼ lb., 25c; lb., 60c. By express, 5 lbs., \$2.00.

Klein-Wanzleben.

Also called Diamond Sugar Beet. This variety is cultivated on a larger scale for the beet sugar factories than any other, as it usually yields 15 to 20 per cent of sugar. Root is of shape straight, tapering evenly, and somewhat screw shape. Our seed is grown in Germany from beets which were tested as to per cent of sugar before setting out. The heavy per cent of sugar makes it also of great value for feeding. Per oz., 5c; ¼ lb., 25c; lb., 60c. By express, 5 lbs., \$2.00.

Cow Peas



Whip-Poor-Will Cow Peas.

Cow Peas have long been grown in the south as forage crops and soil improvers. The result has been that the attention of northern farmers has been attracted to the crop, and the culture has been greatly extended as varieties have been introduced that ripen anywhere in the north. They will thrive where clover will not grow. They must not be sown till the soil is warm. Where wheat follows the oat crop, the peas can be sown after oats are harvested and will make a growth to turn under for wheat that will improve the crop. The early 70-day sorts are best for this purpose; the running varieties for earlier sowing for hay. The crop of hay even on land of only moderate fertility will be more than two tons per acre.

New Era. The earliest variety of Cow Peas in existence and therefore decidedly the best for growing in northern states. Throughout the south Cow Peas are considered one of the most profitable crops, as they yield immensely and are largely used as green summer feed and also for planting in corn and other crops and plowing under as a fertilizer. Particularly recommended for planting after grain harvest and plowing under in fall. If you will get the grain off the ground early and plow and plant to New Era Cow Peas you can put the ground in fine shape for next years' crop. You will not have to haul manure on land so treated. Sow in orchards and either use for feed or soiling. Every farmer can use them profitably, as the New Eras mature in sixty days and have done well as far north as Minnesota. Packet, 5c; lb., 30c; 3 lbs., 80c, postpaid. By freight, peck, \$1.25; bu., \$3.75.

Whip-Poor-Will. The most highly valued plant in the south for fodder and reclaiming old and worn out land, as it is a leguminous plant of special merit as a fertilizer. The vines when fed green make the best fodder and are very nourishing. The Whip-Poor-Will is the most popular sort, and yields a good crop of both fodder and peas. When ripened ground peas make the best cattle fattener. Packet, 5c; lb., 25c; 3 lbs., 60c. By freight, peck, \$1.10; bu., \$3.50; 2 bu. or more at \$3.25.

Field Peas. For northern states there is no crop of greater value than Field Peas, and none is more neglected, which can only be attributed to a lack of knowledge as to their merits as a fodder, being very rich in the elements that improve the muscle, bone and nervous system. Sow only when the ground can be worked, using two bushels of peas and two bushels of oats per acre. Cut when the oats are in the milk and cure for hay. Especially valuable to the farmer who has not enough meadow land.

White Canada Peas. More used than any other. Is one of the very best soiling crops at the north. It is sometimes grown alone, but the most satisfactory dairy results come from sowing it with oats, rye or barley. It makes good ensilage, and is an admirable food either green or dry for cattle, being highly nutritious and rich in milk-producing elements. It is quite hardy and may be sown early in the spring, and will be ready to cut in May or June. The seed should be sown at the rate of one to one and a half bushels per acre. Packet, 10c; pint, 20c; quart, 35c, postpaid. By express or freight, not prepaid, quart, 20c; peck, 85c; bu., \$3.00; 2 bu., \$5.50.

Soja Beans. The berries ripen in about three months from the time of planting and produce a crop of twenty to forty bushels to the acre, and are as easily grown as other beans. When roasted and ground it closely resembles coffee and tastes quite similar. Some mix half and half with coffee when using and claim it is superior. Its great value to the farmer lies in the fact that when ground it makes one of the most valuable crops for feeding stock and adds greatly to the milk production. This variety will ripen in all the northern states, where it has been grown, over four feet high, heavily podded with seed and yielded over ten tons per acre. It is a valuable fodder variety either for feeding green or for the silo. Being a rich, nitrogenous feed, it is unsurpassed as a flesh former, and like the clovers, is a soil improver. Plant in drills two or three feet apart and one foot between plants. Packet, 5c; lb., 30c; 3 lbs., 75c, postpaid. By freight, peck, \$1.00; bushel (50 lbs.), \$3.50.

The Clay. This is so called from the color of the seed, which is the color of reddish yellow clay. The plant is of the same season and habit of growth as the Black, and like the Black, has ripened as far north as Southern Minnesota. Many growers in the south prefer it to the large Black because of the fineness of the growth, which makes it easier to cure. Packet, 10c; pint, 25c; quart, 40c, postpaid. By express or freight, not prepaid, quart, 25c; peck, \$1.00; bushel, \$3.50.

Improved Navy or Boston Beans. A wonderful improvement over the old-time Navy Bean and superior to Michigan pea bean. Makes a very desirable farm crop, especially in the far north. Packet, 5c; ½ pint, 12c; quart, 35c, postpaid. By freight, peck, \$1.00; bushel, \$3.75; 2 bushels or more at \$3.50.

PRICES OF PEAS SUBJECT TO MARKET CHANGES. Prices are so fluctuating that during the season there may be a wide variation in price and we may be entirely out of line with current prices at time ordered, but we will give you closest prices and quotations at any time upon request.

Buckwheat. **JAPANESE BUCKWHEAT.** Entirely distinct from all other varieties; it has the advantage of remaining for some time in bloom and produces seed earlier. On this account it can be grown farther north. It resists drouth and blight very well. The seed is rich dark brown in color and larger than Silver Hull. As much as forty bushels to the acre has been harvested of this variety, making it very profitable to raise. ¼ bu., 50c; bu., \$1.45; 2 bu. at \$1.35; 10 bu. at \$1.25. Bags free.

SILVER HULL BUCKWHEAT. This valuable variety originated abroad and is a decided improvement on the old black or gray sort. It is early, remains longer in bloom than other sorts. A fine variety for honey bees. The grain is of a beautiful light gray color, and has a thin husk. Millers prefer Silver Hull, there being less waste and it makes whiter, better and more nutritious flour than other varieties. Silver Hull is more productive and the grain meets with a more ready sale, bringing higher prices than the Japanese. Under favorable conditions it will yield forty to fifty bushels an acre. ¼ bu., 50c; bu., \$1.40; 2 bu. at \$1.35; 10 bu. at \$1.25. Bags free.

Broom Corn. **IMPROVED EVERGREEN.** For length, strength and straightness of brush this variety is unexcelled. It is of light green color without the slightest reddish tinge. It makes far the best brooms of any grown. Height seven to eight feet.

PRICE: By mail, postpaid, lb., 30c. By freight: Peck, 60c; ½ bu., \$1.10; 1 bu., \$1.75.

DWARF EVERGREEN. This is a popular variety on account of its being not so liable to blow down and lodge as the taller varieties. Heads are very brushy and make a fine yield.

PRICE: By mail, postpaid, lb., 30c. By freight: Peck, 60c; ½ bu., \$1.10; 1 bu., \$1.75. Ask for prices on quantity.

Seed Flax. It will pay you to sow nice, pure, high-grade flax seed. Our seed is thoroughly re-cleaned, free from mustard or any weed seed, and is as good as can be purchased anywhere. Price subject to change. 1er lb., 20c; 3 lbs., 50c, postpaid. By freight or express, not prepaid, peck, 65c; bu., \$3.25; 2 bu. or more at \$3.10; 10 bu. or more at \$3.00 per bushel.



New Crop, Recleaned, Tested Grass Seeds

Ratekin's Iowa Chief Brand Grass and Clover Seed.

READ CAREFULLY. Prices on Grass, Clover, Alfalfa, Millet and Cane seed ("Sorghum"), are so fluctuating in value that it is impossible to accurately foretell or gauge future prices and values. Therefore it would be well to write for latest quotations. But to customers at a distance, who cannot lose the time required to do this, will say, if prices are lower they will get the full value of money sent. If higher we will ship all the money sent will pay for. Prices named are the ruling prices at time this catalogue goes to press.

We pride ourselves there is no other house in America that takes such extraordinary care in cleaning and placing on the market a more superior grade of grass seed than our house does. **WE CALL SPECIAL ATTENTION TO ABOVE PARAGRAPH** by reason of the many perplexities we have encountered in our experience handling grass and clover seeds. Many times our catalogue prices and quotations have been entirely out of line; either above or below current prices a month or two after our catalogue had gone to press, but our customers can always rest assured that our prices will be in line with any other reliable seed house in the country, quality and grade of seeds considered.

We are here in the famous "BLUE GRASS DISTRICT" of Iowa, where there is a large surplus supply of all the best grasses and clovers grown, and are always in position to obtain the most choice seed, the very **BEST** there is to offer. In fact, we possess many advantages over the city seed houses, as we are so situated that we can always have choice of the best that is grown, while the lower grades are shipped away to other seed markets. For these reasons we can always sell a better grade of seeds and sell them at lower prices than other seed houses not so situated. By reason of the advantages named we have for many years handled grasses and clovers extensively, and have made this branch of our business one of our specialties. **WE HANDLE BUT ONE GRADE OF GRASSES AND CLOVERS. THAT IS THE BEST GRADE AND QUALITY THAT CAN BE GROWN.** In addition to the numerous advantages we have related we have the best equipment for cleaning and grading all kinds of grass and clover seeds that can be found in any seed house in the world. Remember, in getting prices do not compare them with seeds left by some farmer at a dealer's to sell or in exchange for goods; seeds which have never been recleaned and which come directly from the threshing machine. We have had instances come under our observation where "good clover seed" would waste one-half in cleaning. One who has not seen our cleaning equipment or seen us cleaning grass seed has no idea of the noxious weed seed and trash, dirt and inferior light seed that are in timothy and clover. In fact, nearly all grass seeds.



Bromus Inermis

Of all the grasses that grow or have ever been introduced into this country **BROMUS INERMIS** is the greatest. None has ever proven so valuable and of such great importance. It is a hardy perennial, withstanding the extreme of heat and drouth and of cold better than any other cultivated grass. It has been fully proven that it will not only succeed and grow under about any conditions, but will do well where timothy, clover, orchard grass or alfalfa will wither and die. It will also make the most astonishing yields under such unfavorable conditions. It is a native of Europe and Asia, ranging from France eastward into Siberia. It is thoroughly permanent and grows with wonderful rapidity, producing heavy crops and luxuriant pastures. Its value to farmers of dry regions cannot be overestimated. All kinds of stock eat it with a relish, and chemical analysis made show it rich in flesh producing ingredients, much more so than timothy. It is very hardy and starts very early in the spring, and grows later than any other grass in the fall. There is no grass that will withstand the extreme changes in temperature that **BROMUS INERMIS** will without injury. Grows twenty-four to thirty-six inches in height and can be cut two or three times per year. Should be sown in the fall or early in the spring, using twenty to twenty-five pounds seed per acre if sown alone, or if with alfalfa use twelve pounds with eight pounds alfalfa. Our stock of **BROMUS INERMIS** is new crop grown and has been carefully handled, and can be depended upon to grow vigorously and with good results.

PRICE: Postpaid, 1 lb., 30c. By freight, purchaser's expense: 10 lbs. or more, 23c; 100 lbs., \$20.00. Bags free.

Defies Drouth, Resists Frost—Best Grass of the Age.

Bromus Inermis. Is also known as "Austrian Brome Grass," "Hungarian Brome Grass" and "Awnless Brome Grass." The experiment stations of Colorado, Minnesota, North Dakota, and different grass stations of the Agricultural Department, Washington, D. C., have conducted extensive experiments, and all recommend it in the highest terms.

The editors of the following agricultural papers comment very favorably upon **BROMUS INERMIS**: Orange Judd Farmer, Chicago, Ill.; Prairie Farmer, Chicago, Ill.; Northwestern Farmer, St. Paul, Minn.; Dakota Farmer, Aberdeen, S. D.; Nebraska Farmer, Omaha, Nebr.; Kansas Farmer, Topeka, Kan.; Homestead, Des Moines, Iowa; Wallace's Farmer, Des Moines, Iowa; Breeders' Gazette, Chicago, Ill., and many others. Could there be any better proof of its value than this?

Timothy Is so well known that it needs hardly any description. There is scarcely a variety of natural or tame grass that is so generally cultivated as this. It is suited to moist, rich land, where it grows to perfection and yields under favorable circumstances large crops of hay. If cut in season, which is at flowering time, it makes a most splendid nutritious hay, while for pasture it cannot be recommended, as almost every farmer knows; its growth is not thrifty enough and close pasturing is injurious to it. When sown with red clover it makes a splendid mixture, and where it is about half and half the timothy yields fully as much as if alone, and you have the clover crop extra. One feeds off the soil and the other the air; the clover greatly enriching the land. For this reason we have added timothy to most all of our clover mixtures, where circumstances will allow.

We want to insist and encourage those who anticipate sowing to order their grass seeds early. Market prices are so fluctuating we do not undertake to make firm prices beyond present stocks, which are at present sufficient under ordinary conditions to meet the requirements of our trade.

PRICES: IOWA CHIEF (highest grade). By mail postpaid: 1 lb., 30c. By freight or express, purchaser's expense: Peck, \$1.00; bu., \$3.75. Bags included.



Clean Seeds. No seed firm in this country takes greater pains and care in the purchase and sale of grass seeds handled than do we, and none have experts of greater knowledge or better judgment. The men in charge of buying, cleaning and grading have all had more than twenty years' experience in our own establishment. We also have the latest and best cleaning machinery and thus equipped we are in position to furnish and do furnish the very highest possible quality in this line. No expense is spared either in purchase price or handling to keep up the quality; of course, it costs a little more, but when you see a field of grass, free from weeds, of strong and vigorous growth, you will realize that quality is and should be of greater concern than price.

PANICUM CRUSGALLI, THE GREAT ORIENTAL GRASS: MORE NUTRITIOUS THAN OATS OR CORN; YIELDS TEN TO TWENTY-FIVE TONS TO THE ACRE.

Ratekin's Grass and Clover Seed

A Few Plain Facts ABOUT GRADES AND QUALITY OF GRASS AND CLOVER SEEDS: The terms so often used by various seedsmen by which different grades of grass seeds are designated, such as "Fancy," "Prime," "Choice," etc., which are not only misleading, but confusing to the ordinary farmer who wants the best there is to be had or grown, and which, by the way, are always the cheapest in the end. On the preceeding page we have called attention to the fact that **"WE HANDLE BUT ONE GRADE OF GRASS AND CLOVER SEEDS—THE BEST GRADE AND QUALITY THAT CAN BE GROWN."** This being so we cannot compete in price with cheap, low grades and quality of seed advertised under these confusing and misleading names, and in order to protect ourselves, our customers and the good name of our **HIGHEST AND BEST GRADES OF PURE, CLEAN SEEDS** we have adopted a trade-mark or insignia, the **"IOWA CHIEF BRAND,"** to designate them from lower grades of seed which we will hereafter handle only to compete in price with same grades of seeds listed by other seedsmen, but in justice to ourselves and our trade we wish to call attention to the fact that in cleaning seed so as to make our **"IOWA CHIEF BRAND"** grade there is much seed removed which, while not sufficiently high quality to grade **"IOWA CHIEF BRAND,"** is suitable for seed, and this will be sold at lower prices, such as Fancy, Choice, Prime and Fair, the quality and grades will be quoted on request in the order here named, but are not listed in our catalogue.

CAUTION. We wish to WARN prospective purchasers of Grass, Clover and Alfalfa Seed to be careful in buying their seeds. Fully one-half of the grass and clover seed offered will be foreign imported seed, grown no one knows where, nor nothing about the age of it, and possibly full of noxious weed seeds.

ALL SEEDS NAMED OR QUOTED ON THIS PAGE ARE IOWA CHIEF BRAND.



Timothy and Alsike Clover Mixture.

This is a better combination for either pasture or meadow than Medium Red Clover and Timothy, as they will flower and ripen at the same time. Alsike Clover can be sown to good advantage on moist soil, and will make a much finer hay than this being free from fuzz and dust, and will not cause the horses to cough.

The seed that we offer has been raised together, and, being both of the same size, they cannot be separated so that we have to sell it at a reduced price. The seed contains a third Alsike Clover and the balance timothy, or is as near in that proportion as we can tell, which is just the proper proportion of sowing. It should be sown at the rate of 8-10 pounds per acre.

PRICE: Per lb., postpaid, 30c. By freight or express, purchaser's expense: 10 lbs., \$1.75; 25 lbs., \$4.00; 100 lbs., \$18.00.

Red Top.

A hardy native perennial grass, succeeding best on moist land. It accommodates itself to a variety of soils, however, even to quite dry situations, and stands hot climate admirably. It is the most permanent grass we have. It remains green for the greater part of the year. Sown largely in marshy land and sloughs in the west. In the east it is one of their principal sorts. Fancy cleaned seed.

PRICE: Per lb., 35c; 3 lbs., 90c, postpaid. By freight: Per bu. (14 lbs.), \$3.00.

Meadow Fescue.

We regard this as one of the most valuable grasses for several reasons. Chief among them is that it adapts itself to different conditions of soil and climate and does well all over the United States and Canada, and is also highly valued and largely cultivated throughout Europe. It gives a large amount of early and late feed of good quality, and yields heavily—from two to four tons of hay per acre, which is of fine quality and very nutritious. As a pasture grass it is particularly valuable, as it is a persistent grower, and one of the earliest in spring and the latest in the fall. It never freezes out or winter-kills, and is not affected by drouth. It grows well, wet or dry, bottoms, hillsides and gravelly and loamy lands and clays, and having many fibrous roots running down eight to fifteen inches, resists the drouth.

PRICE: 1 lb., 30c; 3 lbs., \$1.00, postpaid. By freight: Per bu. (14 lbs.), \$3.00.

Bromus Erectus or Meadow Brome Grass.

This is a grass which resembles Bromus Inermis in character, but is better suited for poor, light soils and hillsides, where it resists any amount of burning heat, while frost does not affect it. For such places it will prove a blessing, and it will be of inestimable value to countries where the clovers or other grasses do not thrive well. Vilmoren, the noted agriculturist of France, says that twenty years ago he sowed this grass, and the grass still stands extremely well. **BROMUS ERECTUS** grows well on land so poor that other grasses cannot exist, and furnishes excellent pasturage. The seed is sown the same way as Promus Inermis, at the rate of eighteen to twenty pounds per acre. PRICE: 1 lb., postpaid, 28c; 1 bu. (14lbs.), \$2.80; 100 lbs., \$18.00. Ask for prices.

Johnson Grass.

As a meadow or hay grass this variety is highly esteemed in the south, where during the hottest and driest seasons it can be relied upon to yield heavily. Its value, as shown by chemical analysis, is better than timothy hay. When cut at time recommended there is no possibility of introducing this grass where it is not wanted. We only advise the sowing of Johnson Grass where it is desired to remain as permanent meadow. Should be sown August to October, or in spring, at the rate of one bushel per acre.

PRICE: 1 lb., 30c; postpaid; 10 lbs., \$1.75; 100 lbs., \$15.00. Bags free.

English or Perennial Rye Grass.

The timothy of England. Does well also in this country. Good for both pastures and meadows, but rather coarse for lawns; succeeds well in the shade.

Lb., 20c; 10 lbs., \$1.00; 25 lbs., \$2.35; 100 lbs., \$9.00.

Add 10c per pound on this and all the following grasses if to go by mail.

Italian Rye Grass.

Similar to the preceding, but larger and stronger in growth.

Lb., 15c; 10 lbs., \$1.10; 100 lbs., \$9.50.

Pacey's Rye Grass.

Similar to English Rye Grass, but smaller and more dwarf. For that reason desirable in lawn mixtures. Will make a showing on a new lawn quicker than most any other grass.

Lb., 35c; 10 lbs., \$3.50; 100 lbs., \$35.00.

Creeping Bent.

A very distinct bottom grass with long creeping stems. Its creeping root and spreading habit form a lasting turf that withstands hard usage better than any other grass.

Lb., 35c; 10 lbs., \$3.75; 100 lbs., \$30.00.

Meadow Fescue.

Also known as English Blue Grass. Excellent for permanent pasture. Short crop. Lb., 35c; 10 lbs., \$2.75; 100 lbs., \$25.00.

Tall Meadow Oat Grass.

For dry soils. Lb., 30c; 10 lbs., \$2.25; 100 lbs., \$19.50.

Sheep's Fescue.

Recommended for short herbage. Should be in all sheep pasture mixtures. Lb., 35c; 10 lbs., \$3.00; 100 lbs., \$25.00.

Meadow Foxtail.

Valuable for low ground. Lb., 35c; 10 lbs., \$2.75; 100 lbs., \$25.00.

Kentucky Blue Grass.

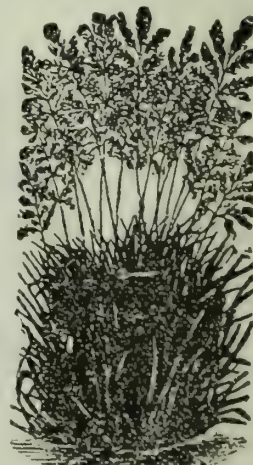
Very valuable and exceedingly popular in many sections of the country as a pasture grass. It is productive and unusually early in spring, furnishing delicious food for all kinds of stock. It is not affected by frost or drouth; is suited to a great variety of soils, succeeding best on a moist, rich meadow. For permanent pastures it is particularly valuable, being of dwarf growth, therefore not so well suited for meadows. Unexcelled for lawns. Our seed is all new crop, best grade, "extra cleaned." Sow twenty pounds per acre for pasture, or fifty to seventy-five pounds for lawns.

PRICE: Per lb., 45c; 3 lbs., \$1.25, postpaid; 1 bu. (14 lbs.), \$2.50; 100 lbs., \$18.00.

Orchard Grass or Thumb Grass.

A valuable grass for pasture or hay land, and on account of the earliness very valuable for permanent pastures. It furnishes the first green bite in the spring and the last in the fall, and is quick to recover from close cropping, and even thrives better the more it is cropped. It is well suited to shady places, such as orchards and groves. Sow twenty pounds per acre.

PRICE: Per lb., 30c; 3 lbs., 75c, postpaid. By freight: Per bu. (14 lbs.), \$2.80; 100 lbs., \$18.00.



Kentucky Blue Grass.

PANICUM CRUSGALLI, THE GREAT ORIENTAL GRASS; MORE NUTRITIOUS THAN CORN OR OATS.

You Run No Risk.

When you purchase our "Iowa Chief Brand" Clover and Grass Seeds, for if not satisfactory on receipt and examination you may return them and money will be refunded. You can also test them yourself if you desire. Of course we do not guarantee them to grow or produce a perfect crop as we have no control over the manner of sowing or weather conditions but do our best to have everything first class.

Write for Prices.

They change constantly and we cannot make a price which will be invariable. We issue a price list each week from January to June. If you are in a hurry order seed and we will send full value of money received on day order arrives. We pay postage at the one and three pound rate only; large quantities shipped at purchaser's expense. Trial packets of any variety at 5 cents each.

Lawn Seed Grass---Beautify the Home Place

ABSOLUTELY THE BEST LAWN SEED THAT EXPERIENCE CAN SUGGEST, OR THAT MONEY CAN BUY.



A smooth, velvety lawn surrounding a house adds not only to the value, but enhances the enjoyment of every home, whether it be in city, town or country. When properly made a lawn is the best investment a home owner can make. The following suggestions may be of benefit, especially to those who are about to make a new lawn.

The most important thing to consider in selecting seed for lawn grass is to obtain a proper mixture of several varieties. By properly choosing early, medium and late grasses a smooth, even green lawn is assured from early spring to late autumn. A given area can support only so many grass plants of one kind, for they all absorb the same kind of food, but if several varieties are sown the same area will support many more plants, as different sorts live on various elements in the soil. With these facts in mind our IOWA CHIEF BRAND Lawn Grass is scientifically mixed and combined. Our experience of many years has given us intimate knowledge of grasses, their habits and requirements.

PRICE: By mail, postpaid, lb., 40c; by express or freight at purchaser's expense, lb., 30c; 4 lbs., \$1.25; 10 lbs., \$2.75; 100 lbs., \$27.00. Bags free.

Ratekin's Superior Clover Seed



Ratekin's Iowa Chief Brand Clover Seed.

In other places in this book we have called attention to the value and importance of purity and good, strong germination of all seeds, especially grasses and clover.

Without the use of the microscope the ordinary farmer, or anyone else, for that matter, would hardly detect the difference. The man who sold the seed to the storekeeper may mean well and be the best fellow in the world, but such seed is always dear at any price, even as a gift, when you can buy our high-grade seed at reasonable—our lowest and best prices.

WHEN YOU BUY YOUR SEEDS FROM US YOU RUN NO RISK. IF NOT ENTIRELY SATISFACTORY ON RECEIPT YOU MAY RETURN THEM AT OUR EXPENSE AND MONEY PAID FOR THEM WILL BE REFUNDED.

PLEASE NOTE: Prices of Clover and Timothy are subject to fluctuations of the market. Buyers should write for firm and lowest price before buying, which we quote by return mail. Then there is sure to be no misunderstanding.



Medium Red Clover.

This is the most important of all clovers and the standard everywhere for hay and pasture. It is known as Common Red or June Clover in many sections. Our Iowa grown clover seed has become widely known for its purity, strong vitality, hardiness, vigorous and healthy growth, and stooling qualities, so that now we receive many orders from the most distant parts of the United States. Well-posted farmers are beginning to appreciate the difference between it and ordinary stock. Our "IOWA CHIEF BRAND" grade is the plumpest, cleanest, purest, fanciest grade; tested and of high vitality. Farmers usually sow fifteen to twenty pounds of clover seed to the acre when sown alone, but this seed is so choice that six or seven pounds is really enough if conditions are favorable, but we recommend sowing ten pounds, so as to be sure of a perfect stand. About five pounds if sown with timothy.

Per lb., 30c; 3 lbs., 80c, postpaid. Per bushel, \$12.00.

Alsike or Swedish Clover

(*Trifolium Hybridum*). A very hardy clover. Perennial. On rich, moist soils it yields an enormous quantity of hay or pasturage, but its greatest value is for sowing with other clovers and grasses, as it forms a thick bottom and greatly increases the yield of hay; cattle prefer it to any other forage. The heads are globular, fragrant and much liked by bees, which obtain a large amount of honey from them. Sow in spring or fall at the rate of six pounds per acre when used alone.

"IOWA CHIEF BRAND." Lb., 35c, 35c, postage paid; pk., \$3.75; bu., \$12.25; 100 lbs., \$19.50.

NOTE: At pound prices we send by mail postpaid. In larger quantities the prices are for seed sent by express or freight (sacks included), at purchaser's expense.

Sweet Clover

(*Melilotis Alba*, or Bokhara). Tall, shrubby plant, bearing innumerable small white flowers; very valuable for bees, and sown largely along the roadside by beekeepers. Both leaves and flowers have a delightful fragrance. Sow ten pounds per acre.

Per lb., 35c; 3 lbs., \$1.00. By freight, 5 lbs. or more at 25c per lb.

White Dutch

(*Trifolium Repens*). In connection with Kentucky Blue Grass it furnishes finest and most nutritious pasture for sheep and cows. Also used for making lawns. Sow six to eight pounds per acre.

Lb., 45c, postpaid; by express or freight, lb., 35c; 20 lbs., \$7.00.

Bur Clover

(*Medicago Mac Ulata*). Is used mainly in the southern states and in California. It fills in the season when other forage plants have become dried up by the summer heat. Stock of all kinds feed upon the burs, which contain a large portion of nutritious matter. Sow fifteen to twenty pounds per acre in August, September or October.

Per lb., 50c, postpaid. Ask for prices on quantities.

Japan Clover

(*Lespedeza Striata*). Low, perennial spreading habit. Stands excessive drouth well; flourishes on poorest soil in southern states. Sow fifteen pounds per acre. It makes a fair hay, and stock eat it readily when green. It is also valuable for turning under as green manure. Sow in spring broadcast at the rate of thirty pounds per acre.

Per lb., 30c. White for quantity prices.

Mammoth Red Clover.

(*Trifolium Pratense Perenne*). Also called Sapling or Pea Vine Clover. This greatly resembles the Medium Red, but is of much taller and more vigorous growth. Nothing equals it for hog pasture, as it will produce an enormous yield and is of the highest feeding quality. It gives quick results, making an unequaled crop, and is an excellent pasture grass. If your soil is poor and needs enriching there is no fertilizer as cheap and good as sowing Mammoth clover and plowing the crop under.

"IOWA CHIEF BRAND." Lb., 30c, postpaid; pk., \$3.25; 100 lbs., \$20.00.

Giant Crimson Clover

(*Trifolium Incarnatum*). This is an annual variety. The yield in fodder is immense, and after cutting it at once commences to grow and continues until severe freezing weather and makes good hay. Sow in April or May, 20 pounds of seed per acre. The only objection to this is that it winter kills in this latitude. Desirable as a soiling crop.

"IOWA CHIEF BRAND." Lb., 30c, postpaid; pk., \$3.00; bu., \$11.50; 100 lbs.

White Clover

(*Trifolium Repens*). A small headed white species that is very fragrant and exceedingly desirable for mixing with lawn grass seeds. Although it is not a heavy producer it is of great value for use in permanent pastures, as it affords a most nutritious food for sheep and cattle. This variety will succeed in almost any soil. About six pounds are sown to the acre.

"IOWA CHIEF BRAND." Lb., 50c, postpaid; 10 lb. lots, 35c a lb., by express.

Few persons detect impurities in grass seeds unless the seed is very foul. Frequently our farmer friends have watched the recleaning of timothy or clover seed by our machines, and noting the impurities taken out have wondered where they came from, as the seed sowed without dirt or trash before cleaning. Other seed dealers who have happened to be in our warehouse when we were cleaning clover have often remarked that the seed looked so extra nice they should not reclean it. From those same lots of seed we were cleaning out three to five pounds per bushel of trash, sand and shrunken clover seed. This makes quite a difference in real value, and our seed is really worth \$1.00 to \$2.00 per bushel more than that obtained from most dealers.

A Warning.

During the past few years immense quantities of low grade, impure and adulterated clover containing the most noxious weed seeds have been imported from Europe, Canada and Chili and shipped to the farmers of this state. In some cases where samples have been sent to the Department of Agriculture reports show that the seed contained Canada Thistle, Dodder, Wild Mustard, etc., and farmers burned the seed instead of sowing it.

Panicum Crusgalli. The Great Oriental Grass: More Nutritious Than Corn or Oats. Yields 10 to 25 Tons to the Acre.

Alfalfa---The Great Agricultural Clover



NEBRASKA DRY LAND GROWN ALFALFA.
OUR CIRCULAR ON CULTURE OF ALFALFA IS FREE.

Alfalfa Is King of All Crops.

The United States Department of Agriculture says: "In addition to the hay and seed crop, Alfalfa adds \$100 to the value of every acre on which it grows." There is no state in the Union in which Alfalfa cannot be successfully grown. Alfalfa produces three to eight tons per acre. It has as much protein as wheat bran. Three hundred stalks have been grown from one seed. It does not exhaust the soil, but enriches it equal to clover. It can be ground into meal and hundreds of car loads are being ground every week by alfalfa mills to feed cattle, hogs, horses and poultry. It will grow three to five crops per year. Alfalfa in money value is worth forty-five per cent more than other clovers and sixty per cent more than timothy. It would hardly be possible to say too much about Alfalfa. It is a working plant which is changing the destiny of many farming sections.

Its long branching roots penetrate far down into the earth, push and crowd this way and that and thus constitute a gigantic subsoiler. These become an immense magazine of fertility to be drawn upon by other crops for many years after, should you ever plow it up.

A Few Hints on Alfalfa.

The presence of lime in some form, either in the soil or subsoil, is essential. If it is known there is no lime in the soil, lime should be applied as a top dressing, when the land is being plowed preparatory to sowing the seed. **GOOD DRAINAGE IS NECESSARY**, for an excess of surface water soon rots out the roots.

Nebraska Dry Land Grown Alfalfa.

The great bulk of American seed is grown under irrigation and does not possess that vitality in adjusting itself to normal conditions from seed that it does where grown under natural conditions. We purchase all our seed direct from the growers in southern central Nebraska, and know what we are getting; therefore you can rely upon seed that you get from us being grown under natural conditions, and of the best quality that can be produced.

PRICE: 1 lb., postpaid, 35c; 3 lbs., \$1.00. By freight or express: Peck, \$4.00; bu., \$12.00; ½ bu. at bushel price.

Turkestan Alfalfa.

Seed of this Alfalfa collected in Asia have been so very satisfactory that we have no hesitancy in recommending it as more hardy than the ordinary variety, having stood a temperature of forty-five degrees below zero when the ground was bare. Makes large top growth; also fine root growth.

Lb., 40c, postpaid; by express or freight at purchaser's expense, lb., 30c; bushel, \$15.00; 100 pounds, \$25.00.



Ratekin's Finest Special Grass Mixtures



These Clover Grass Mixtures are selected with the greatest of care and are composed of varieties best adapted for different kinds of soil and purposes. From our experience as well as experience of our customers in every part of the country, we are enabled to select in these Clover Grass Mixtures not only varieties that are suited to the soil, but in the right proportion in each mixture. In every instance we mention the quantities which we recommend to be sown per acre and not only have these proven to be sufficient, but have proven to be equally successful and sufficient with our patrons.

OUR SPECIAL MIXTURES FOR HAY.

No. 1. For moist ground and rich soils. Sow eighteen pounds per acre. Meadow Foxtail, Italian Rye Grass, Sweet Vernal, Meadow Fescue, Timothy, Alsike, Tall Meadow Oat Grass.

No. 2. For moist ground which is occasionally overflowed. Sow sixteen pounds per acre. Tall Fescue, Red Top, Timothy, Meadow Fescue, Meadow Foxtail, Alsike.

No. 3. For high and dry ground, light or medium soils. Sow twenty pounds per acre. Red Fescue, Timothy, Red Clover, Crested Dogtail, Sweet Vernal, Lucerne, Hard Fescue.

No. 4. For high or dry ground, heavy or strong soil. Sow twenty pounds per acre. Tall Meadow Oat Grass, Sweet Vernal, Timothy, Hard Fescue, Red Top, Red Clover, Meadow Fescue, English Rye Grass, Alsike.

No. 5. For top seeding on marshes and swampy places occasionally overflowed, the following mixture is adapted. Sow ten pounds per acre. Meadow Foxtail, Tall Fescue, Floating Meadow Grass, Red Top, Water Spear Grass.

No. 6. For light, sandy and gravelly soils. Sow twenty pounds per acre. White Clover, Hard Fescue, Soft Brome Grass, Red Top, Fescue Grass, Bromus Inermis, Sheep's Fescue.

OUR MIXTURE FOR PERMANENT PASTURE.

No. 7. For moist ground and rich soils. Sow twenty pounds per acre. Meadow Fescue, English Rye Grass, Red Top, Fowl Meadow, Italian Rye Grass, Alsike, Meadow Foxtail, Blue Grass, White Clover, Orchard Grass, Timothy, Red Clover.

No. 8. For high and dry ground, clay or heavy soils. Sow twenty-two pounds per acre. Red Fescue, English Rye Grass, Timothy, Meadow Fescue, Italian Rye Grass, Red Clover, Tall Meadow Oat Grass, Blue Grass, White Clover, Orchard Grass, Alsike.

No. 9. For high and dry ground, light soils. Sow twenty-two pounds per acre. Hard Fescue, Lucerne, English Rye Grass, Red Fescue, Yellow Oat Grass, Red Clover, Meadow Fescue, Red Top, White Clover, Crested Dogtail.

No. 10. To improve pastures by top seeding, or for low, rich, marshy ground. Sow ten pounds per acre. Fowl Meadow, Tall Fescue, Creeping Bent, Red Top, Alsike.

No. 11. For top seeding for wood pastures, orchards and other shady places. Sow ten pounds per acre. Tall Meadow Oat Grass, Sweet Vernal, Timothy, Orchard Grass, White Clover, Meadow Foxtail, Blue Grass, Alsike.

No. 12. For sheep pastures on light, sandy soils or dry uplands and hillsides. Sow twenty-two pounds per acre. Sheep's Fescue, Crested Dogtail, Sweet Vernal, Hard Fescue, White Clover.

PRICES FOR ANY OF THE TWELVE MIXTURES: Per lb., 35c, postpaid; 20 lbs., \$4.25; 100 lbs., \$20.00, by express or freight.

NOTICE: It is difficult to over estimate the importance of a good selection and proper mixture of clover and grass seeds for permanent pasture or for hay. The above mixtures are correct. Don't let the value of a few cents stand in the way of your getting the best.

QUICK, ANNUAL HOG PASTURE MIXTURE; BEST IN THE WORLD; \$4.00 per cwt.

This mixture is one of the best and most profitable ever devised by man. It comes early and quickly and furnishes a green, nutritious feed early in the season when hogs and other stock crave and most need green feed. If you have HOGS don't fail to sow one, two, three or ten acres of it, dependent on the number of hogs or pigs you have. It requires but 100 pounds of seed per acre, but is worth a hundred dollars per acre to every farmer that has twenty or more hogs. IF YOU HAVE BUT TEN HOGS then sow a half acre to this QUICK ANNUAL HOG MIXTURE. It will pay you 100 per cent above the cost of the seed.

SOW ONE, TWO OR THREE ACRES OF PANICUM CRUGILLI FOR FORAGE FOR YOUR HORSES, CATTLE AND SHEEP, BUT DON'T FAIL TO SOW ONE, TWO, THREE OR TEN ACRES OF OUR QUICK ANNUAL HOG PASTURE MIXTURE. They are EACH MONEY MAKERS AND STOCK SAVERS. IT WILL PAY YOU BIG TO SOW LIBERALLY OF THEM.

Celebrated Mastodon Carrot for Stock

The Mastodon Stock Carrot.

Glory enough! Sound the trumpets; ring the bells; clap your hands! Everybody shout for joy and hallelujah who plants our Mastodon Carrot. There may be difference of opinion regarding many varieties of seeds, but there is no room for difference of opinion as to which is the best—Pre-eminent best—Stock carrot. The Mastodon Carrot IS THE ONE TO PLANT. It yields more tons and of greater nutritious qualities than any carrot that grows. Roots often measure fifteen to twenty inches long and twenty inches in circumference, yielding from sixteen to forty tons per acre. This is no extravagant statement. Plant same as stock beets.

Large packet, 10c; oz., 20c; ¼ lb., 60c; lb., \$2.00, mail postpaid. By express or freight, \$1.75 per lb.

Millet

Millet. Nothing pays better for a stock raiser and dairy farmer than a few acres of Millet of some kind, for it is of the greatest feeding value and milk producing quality, and yields at least again as much of the most delicious hay per acre as timothy and clover. It should be sown regularly every year, and not merely as a catch crop. When spring is so unfavorable that other crops fail to grow or when the season is so late and wet that other crops will not mature any more, then there is always the greatest demand for millet. Write for lowest prices, stating amount wanted.

German or Golden Millet. This grows very rank and is one of the best varieties for hay or fodder. On good, rich soil it will make a growth of four to five feet high, and although the hay may seem coarse, yet it is so tender that if cut at the right stage, which is when in full bloom, even the hogs will eat the cured hay quite greedily. A yield of five tons of hay per acre is nothing unusual. Sow three pecks per acre. **PRICE:** 48 lbs., bu., \$1.50 per bu.,

New Siberian Millet. A millet introduced several years ago from Russia, and an entirely distinct variety, the seed being of an orange color, but heads about the same as the common millet. It stools heavily and the joints being so close together the plants are covered with blades. This is a heavy yielder, and the hay is of very fine quality. It yields from forty to fifty bushels of seed per acre. Being an introduction from the extreme north, it is very hardy and will prosper under conditions where other varieties fail. **PRICE:** Large packet, 5c; 1 lb., 25c, postpaid by mail. Not prepaid, \$1.50 per bushel.

Early Fortune Millet. An extra early variety, of which astonishing yields are reported. It is very early, and is claimed to be rust proof, and that chinch bugs will not eat the plant. The seed is of a beautiful red color, and is two or three times the size of German Millet. This variety heads in from twenty-five to thirty-five days. It gives a large yield both of seed and fodder. It can be fed to horses and other stock without injury, even when cut so late that the seed has formed. **PRICE:** Package, 5c; lb., 20c; 10 lbs., 40c; 50 lbs., \$1.60; 100 lbs., \$3.00.

Billion Dollar Grass or Japanese Millet

Especially Valuable For Silo And For Feeding Green.

Better Than The Best Corn Fodder.

From Japan, that mysterious country, which is furnishing (and has furnished in the past) many rare farm seeds, comes this remarkable grass—remarkable in a hundred different ways, for there is nothing known to man today that is more luxuriant, more prolific, more marvelously rich and vigorous in growth than Billion Dollar Grass.

A Quick Producer. It will produce a hay crop in from six to ten weeks, anywhere; and if sown the first of May will be ready to cut the middle of July for hay, attaining the height of (according to the richness of the soil and warmth) from five to 7½ feet. It is preeminently the grass to sow if you are going to be short on hay for your cattle and sheep.

Better Than Corn for Silo. Cows with both Billion Dollar Grass and corn before them will take Billion Dollar Grass first and consume it without waste; when put upon Billion Dollar Grass they increase in milk and fall off when feed is changed to corn. An ideal ensilage mixture is made of two parts Billion Dollar Grass and one part of Soja Beans (see page 103) mixed when filling the silo. This mixture forms a complete balance ration for milch cows without grain, oil cake, etc.

Culture of the Billion Dollar Grass. Everybody reading the above regarding this wonderful grass will wish to know its best method of cultivation. If you wish very fine leafy hay, and have strong, rich ground, sow at the rate of twenty pounds per acre; but if your soil is but moderately rich, then sow at the rate of twelve pounds per acre. This latter is the amount we ourselves sow, and find same very satisfactory. It can be sown at different times of the year, especially if you wish same for pasturage, or if you are short of hay. It can be sown in April, in May, in June, in July, and even in August, and will return glorious, heavy crops.

FOR HAY: Cut just when in bloom—rather sooner than later, as it makes better hay without the seed heads than with them. The hay is then healthier and of finer quality and in curing treat as would a rich field of clover.

FOR FEEDING GREEN: All rich, luxuriant growing grasses and forage plants must be fed in the green state moderately at first. Billion Dollar Grass is one of those rich, magnificently luxuriant growing grasses, therefore you should turn in hogs and cattle and sheep and horses at first moderately, after they have had a good feed somewhere else, and then gradually accustom them to this. It is on the same plan as hungry stock turned into rich clover, they would find harm—yes, possibly death. Turn them in at first moderately, and you can soon permanently.

FOR SEED: Let Billion Dollar Grass get thoroughly ripe; cut and thresh as you would timothy. The seed is rich and nutritious.

A Remarkable Grower. It is truly the most marvelous grower, the most luxuriant stouter that we have ever seen. Imagine a field sown to Billion Dollar Grass, with every spear of it over six feet tall, yielding from 26,000 to 50,000 pounds of as rich, green fodder as the world has ever seen. Men talk about hard times, but positively hard times must vanish on every farm where Billion Dollar Grass is sown. You can get two or three rich crops from the same annually; and then a big lot of fodder besides. If you sow early, you will get from 26,000 to 50,000 pounds of fodder, which you can put in your silo or cure for hay and the Billion Dollar Grass will quickly spring up again and give you another yield that will astonish the country. This can be cut again for hay; then the field will give you pasturage all fall and horses and hogs and sheep and cattle and poultry will eat it greedily.

Feeding Value. Here is where Billion Dollar Grass comes into play. Prof. Williams of the United States Department of Agriculture, says: "Already widely grown as a hay crop, it deserves more general use for soiling, as this grass is of particular value for feeding to dairy cattle, young stock and sheep."

Poultry, geese and turkeys all relish Billion Dollar Grass in the green state, and keep healthy and happy and fresh on the seed thereof when fed during the fall and winter months.

Hogs and their families. Well, how the hogs grunt and give that contented swag of the tail when they can pasture on Billion Dollar Grass, and then if you wish to fatten them, give them daily rations of the seed. Remember, this grass will produce from forty to one hundred bushels of seed per acre. This feed, either ground or coarse, makes excellent food, although it is inclined to slightly laxative.

Cows, calves and heifers look with pleasure on the Billion Dollar Grass pasture and feed in happy contentment upon its luxuriant swath and glory in the Billion Dollar Grass hay, especially if fed along with Cow Pea hay or Peaot hay or grain. Try it this season, and if you do not wish to make hay out of it, fill you silos therewith and watch the cattle eat same.

Horses, mules and the like jump over a four-foot fence to get at the Billion Dollar Grass, and they will fatten and keep healthy thereon. They will eat the hay, although not as eagerly as cattle.

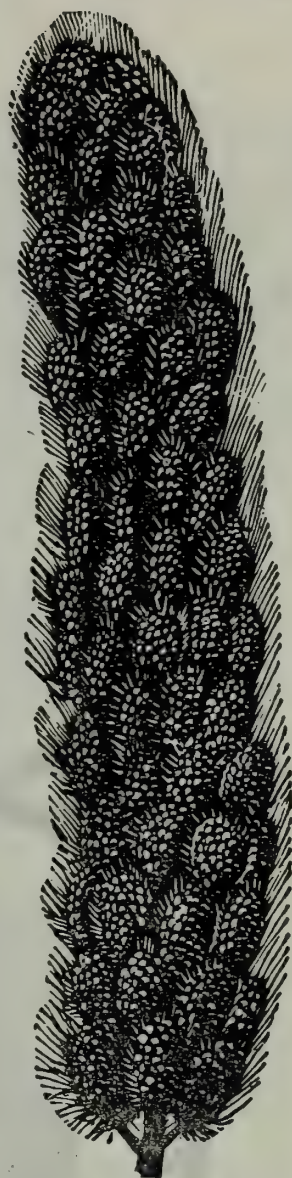
Jas. A. Leppo, Carroll County, Md.: "I am greatly pleased with the Billion Dollar Grass. I believe it will be a good thing in this country. It was from five to six feet high when I cut it the first time."

George A. Wright, Orleans County, Vt.: "Billion Dollar Grass is a great grass for yield, easily making six tons of hay per acre. It is a quick growing grass. Stock like it very much. I wish every farmer would try it."

J. E. Park, Marshall County, Tenn.: "I planted Billion Dollar Grass June 15th; July 20th; in thirty-five days, it was ready to cut—five feet high. It is a splendid grass. I want enough for five acres."

IF YOU SOW PLENTY OF BILLION DOLLAR GRASS, YOUR WIFE CAN DRESS IN SILK AND SATIN AND YOU CAN TAKE YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS OUT RIDING IN AN AUTOMOBILE! YOU CAN ROLL IN WEALTH AND LUXURY. BILLION DOLLAR GRASS IS A GOLD MINE TO THEM WHO SOW IT ABUNDANTLY.

PRICE BILLION DOLLAR GRASS: Package, 10c; lb., 25c, postpaid. By freight: 12 lbs., \$1.20; 20 lbs., \$1.40; 50 lbs., \$3.00; 100 lbs., \$5.50; 250 lbs., \$12.50.



Golden German Millet.

Red River Grown Seed Potatoes

In order to secure the best possible yields, combined with the best quality, there is no crop grown that a change in seed is so essential as in seed potatoes. If our selected Red River grown are planted, 300 to 600 bushels can be as easily grown per acre as 50 to 100 bushels scrub stock. To grow a big, fine potato crop will not cost any more than to grow a crop of small potatoes which are hardly marketable at any price. Nothing gives us more genuine pleasure and satisfaction than the marvelous increase we have had in our potato trade since we have had our seed potatoes grown exclusively in the extreme north. There is a world of difference between Northern Red River grown potatoes and eastern or along the lakes. We have taken potatoes grown in Iowa, Illinois, Michigan and New York and planted them side by side with the same varieties grown in the Red River Valley and never got half a crop, while the Red River Potatoes would roll out by the hundreds of bushels per acre, often yielding 400 to 600 bushels. Other potatoes would give us from thirty to fifty and sometimes as high as 150 bushels per acre, but this was a very rare yield. Our Northern Grown seed potatoes insure a vigorous growth, an early maturity and the largest crops and finest quality and flavored potatoes in the world. We have hundreds of customers who buy ten to twenty barrels a year for their planting purposes, because it more than doubly pays them. Think of 200, 240, 400, 500 and even 600 bushels per acre and then compare it with the average yield of potatoes from home grown sorts.

We ship our seed potatoes in the spring as soon as danger of freezing is over, so they will arrive in plenty of time for planting. All orders for potatoes are acknowledged as soon as received and forwarded the first day that we feel that it is safe to start them. When shipment is ordered otherwise, shipment is made at purchaser's risk and we assume no responsibility on account of freezing. We do not charge for bags, boxes or barrels. All potatoes are carefully packed and delivered to the railroad company in good order and condition, then our responsibility ceases.

POUND PRICES: All varieties, 25c per lb.; 3 lbs., 60c; postpaid, except when otherwise noted.

Ratekin's Red River Special

(Earliest in the World).



A Brand New Extra Early Potato:

FOUND BY ACCIDENT IN FIELD OF EARLY OHIO. I have grown potatoes in my garden for table and family use. I have grown them on my farms for my seed trade, and I have watched them growing in the fertile valley of the Red River of Minnesota and North Dakota; have also inspected the potato crops and fields of Michigan, Maine, New York and other potato growing districts and have tested every new origination as well as older sorts; in fact, have made the potato growing question one of my leading specialties and have discarded all the inferior varieties and sorts and have never offered or catalogued anything in the potato line except those varieties that I have not thoroughly tried out and found to be of the best in quality, yield and flavor.

Our seed potato farms are situated in Clay County, Minnesota, close to the boundry line of Canada in the very heart of the best potato growing country in the world. At the time of my visit Minnesota and the Dakotas were stricken with drought and the crops in general were not in the best of condition. Potatoes especially were affected and presented an unfavorable appearance as our foreman took me over the grounds. He stated that he had something in the line of a "freak" which he wanted me to examine, and sure enough, at the top of a little knoll, like a rose among the thorns, growing thrifty and luxuriant, was the future parent of this new potato—"RATEKIN'S RED RIVER SPECIAL."

To be sure I was interested and immediately gave the plant, this freak of freaks, a critical examination. It was right after blooming and the little seed pods or balls were already formed. The plant presented the appearance of potato vines grown under ideal conditions, and it was a mystery how this vine could appear so healthy and thrifty. It may be well to state the seeds of the potato are not the tubes at the base of the vine, as is generally supposed, but little roundish oval berries which form on the pistil of the flower or bloom. This fruit is of a green color or tinged with violet brown, and average about an inch in diameter. The pulp of this fruit is very acrid, of a green color, and poisonous. The seeds are white, kidney shaped and flat. "Like produces like." I gave strict instructions to the grower and advised him to test out the seed in the trial grounds. Luck was with us and out of a dozen seeds planted we obtained one true vine, which we propagated from by placing the tubers in a hot-bed without cutting them, and as soon as the sprouts were well furnished with roots they were broken off at the surface of the Potato below the roots and planted separately in pots. By this process, although tedious, we were able to breed up a goodly quantity of plants, the tubers of which were planted last spring covering about five acres. We offer these tubers to our customers the coming season.

DESCRIPTION: The vines are strong, with exceptionally luxuriant, deep green foliage, making a healthy vigorous growth when other varieties are cut down by drought. The tubers lie closely in the hill and are ready for table use in six weeks from planting. They are similar to the Ohio in shape, with small eyes and there is but little waste when paring. The skin is thin, smooth and of a snowy whiteness. The table quality is of the choicest, the flesh being pure white, dry and floury. It cooks quickly and has a delicious flavor. All in all it is the best Potato we have ever grown or tested and we urge our customers to give it a thorough trial. For early table use it has no equal.

PRICE: Lb., mail postpaid, 35c; 3 lbs., \$1.00. By freight or express, purchaser's expenses: Peck, \$1.00; ½ bu., \$1.75; bu., \$3.00; 5 bu., \$12.50.

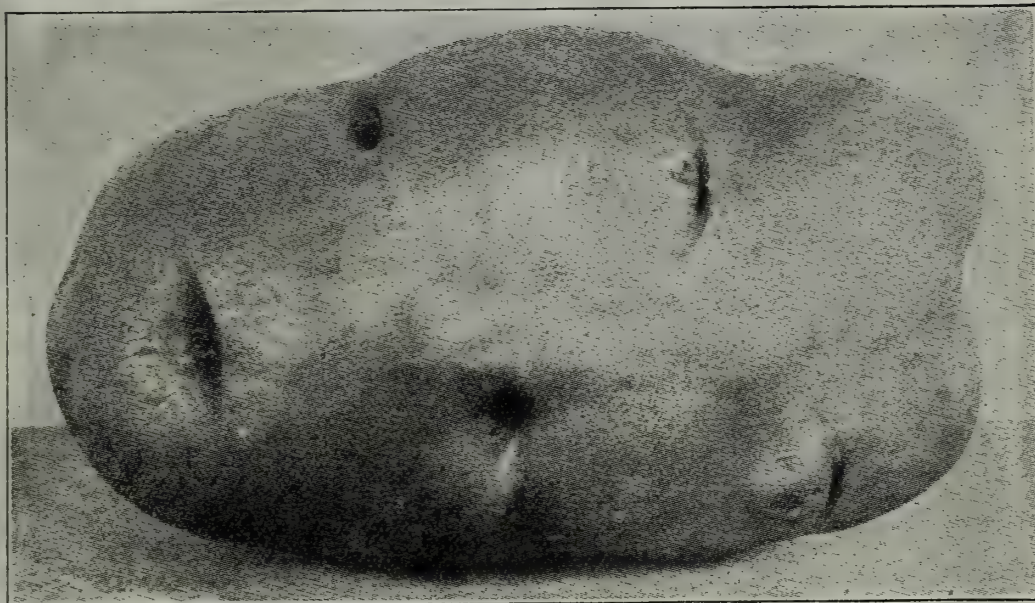
Ratekin's New Majestic

The World's Largest Potato. (Red River Grown).

THE LARGEST, HANDSOMEST, SMOOTHEST AND BEST FLAVORED EARLY POTATO IN THE WORLD.

Never before in the history of the potato world has there been such an enormous yielding Extra Early Potato introduced. The finest, Grandest and most Up-to-date Early Potato ever offered, originated and introduced by us five years ago. As modest as we are, we cannot restrain our enthusiasm. It's a beauty, such as you never saw before. We christened it "The Majestic." Ring the bells: Stand aside: Clear the track: Make room for this Potato: The Great Majestic, General Purpose Early Potato: None in the wide world its equal. It stands alone: The Great Majestic all purpose potato. Listen, Read, Order, Plant. Make money while you can. Here is your opportunity. We wish we had space to tell you all we know about this wonderful Large Early Potato. It is indeed the most handsome potato ever discovered. Just the right shape; just the right size. In fact, it is the ideal of all varieties. No potato is superior in eating qualities year in and year out. It stands to other potatoes as rich Jersey cream does to skimmed milk. As early as the earliest, and is better than the best.

It is a potato we know will not only make dollars for the grower, but will please him beyond doubt as well. A striking characteristic of this new Majestic beauty is its productiveness. same amount of ground than any other sort ever before discovered. What more can we say? Need we say more? Our plea with you is to plant freely of this new potato. You will find it the most profitable potato you ever planted. We know you will thank us and become as enthusiastic as we when once you see the fine potatoes and enormous yield it produces. We know we will be unable to supply the enormous demand there will be for this new potato the coming season. If you are not ready to order your seeds now write us how many to reserve for you, making remittance to cover half your order; then when they can be shipped safely without danger of freezing, send balance, and seed will be sent promptly and at once.



Ratekin's New Majestic.

Ratekin's New Majestic.

Stand aside; make room for this noble potato, this monarch general purpose potato. None in the wide world its equal. It stands alone. It is without question the earliest potato, the best potato of the age. It is ahead of earliest in quality and yield. It is the great general purpose potato of the world. By this we mean it is extremely early, fit for table use ahead of all others. It is good for midsummer; it is good for late summer; it is good for fall, and it is magnificent to put into winter quarters, where it will keep splendidly all winter and give you the finest flavored, best quality eating potatoes in the spring and early summer. We never can tire extolling the merits of this potato. There is really no potato that is its superior and if we had but one potato to plant this would be the potato every time. The yield the past season was astonishingly large, acre after acre yielding from 200 to 500 bushels. It is a wonderful potato in every respect.

PRICE: Postpaid, 1 lb., 30c; 4 lbs., \$1.00. By freight or express, purchaser's expense: Peck, 60c; ½ bu., \$1.00; 1 bu., \$1.75; 3 bu., \$5.00.

Red River Grown Seed Potatoes

Extra Early Six Weeks.

THE HANDSOMEST AND EARLIEST; GRAND, FINE.



Ratekin's Early Six Weeks.

skin, and very white flesh. Tubers grow close together in the hill, and it is not unusual to get from ten to fifteen good potatoes of marketable size from a single eye. The potatoes begin to form when the vines are only four or five inches high. The tops and tubers grow rapidly, and at six weeks from planting are of good marketable size.

PRICE: Postpaid, 1 lb., 25c; 3 lbs., 60c. By freight or express, purchaser's expense: Peck, 50c; ½ bu., 90c; 1 bu., \$1.60; 3 bu. or more, \$1.50 per bushel.

Pat's Choice

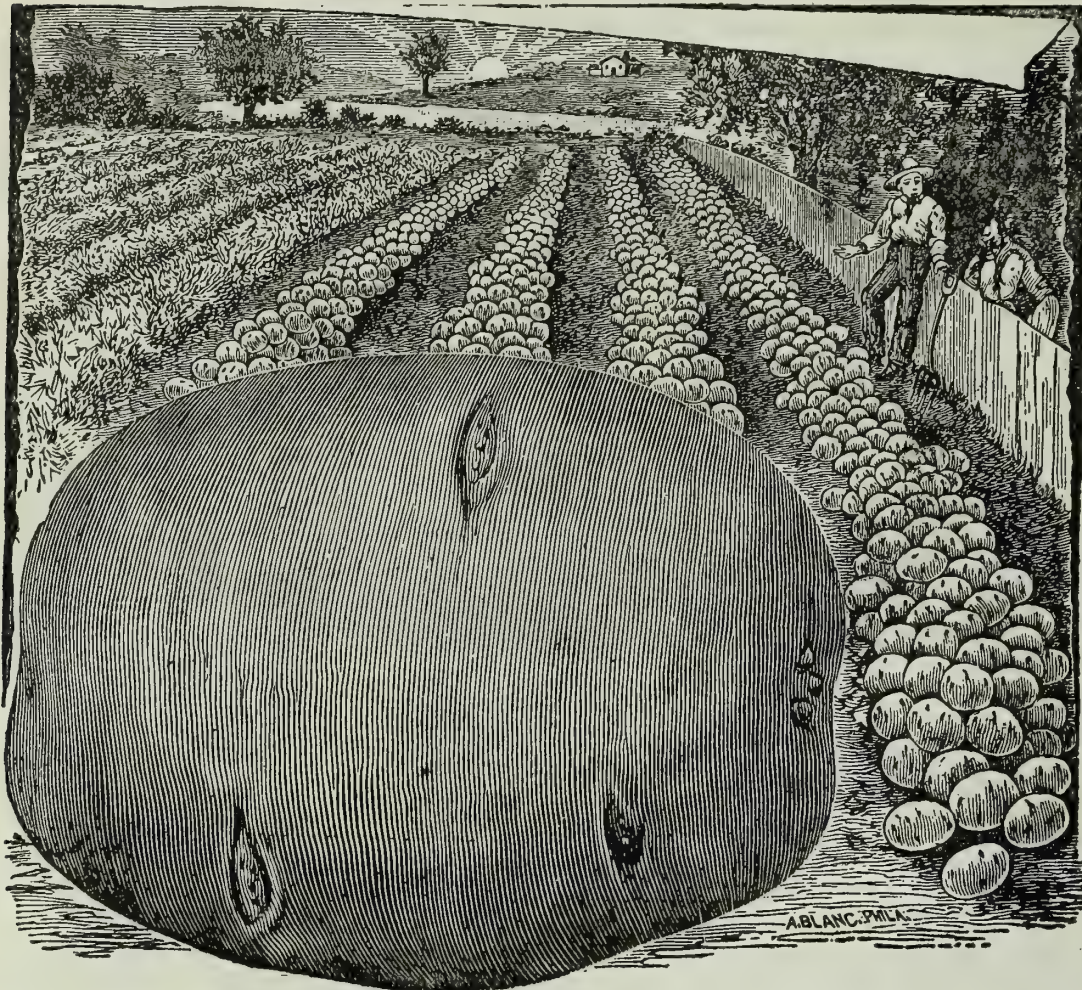
Was first introduced in 1900, since which time no other late variety has gained such wonderful fame. The Greatest of All Late Potatoes. IT OUTYIELDS ANY OTHER LATE POTATO; IS OF THE FINEST QUALITY AND FLAVOR. There is nothing like it. Long, handsome and very smooth. Skin is a beautiful pink color, always dry and mealy, whether baked or boiled. It is medium late in season, but an enormous yielder. If you want the best late potato that is grown, the one that is on top for quality, on top for smoothness and handsome appearance and on top for yield, choose Pat's Choice, and you will make no mistake.

PRICE: Postpaid, 1 lb., 25c; 3 lbs., 60c. By freight or express at purchaser's expense: 1 peck, 50c; ½ bu., 90c; 1 bu., \$1.60; 5 bu. and over, \$1.50.

Introduced by us five years ago, it now ranks as we predicted, "King of Earlies," and the great favorite with all who have planted it. In North Dakota, where we have these potatoes grown, it scoffs at dry weather and drouth, for it always gets there ahead of both; then there is no potato grown that adapts itself to all kinds of conditions more readily than this early wonder. It is not only an extra early, six weeks' potato, but it's good all summer and fall and through the winter. In fact, there is no potato grown, early or late, of such fine keeping qualities. It is a handsome oblong, maturing ready for table use in forty to forty-five days from time of planting, or at least a week to ten days earlier than the nearest rival. As shown in the accompanying illustration, it is a smooth, even surface; white

Ohio Potatoes Our Specialty

ALWAYS RELIABLE.



No matter how many new early varieties are introduced the Early Ohio holds its place at the head of other early sorts. We have more calls for it than any other variety. Car loads of this standard early variety are shipped every year to southern states for seed purposes, and the product thereof is shipped back again to our largest potato markets. Our Red River grown Early Ohio are vigorous and healthy, will naturally produce the largest crops and mature fully ten days to two weeks earlier than such as are bought up by seed dealers in large cities, where they are picked up in the open markets, and as long as they have a reddish color and an oblong or oval form call them "Early Ohio." Our stock of these potatoes is extremely fine this season, and are absolutely pure in variety.

PRICE: By freight or express, purchaser's expense: 1 peck, 50c; half bushel, 80c; 1 bushel, \$1.15; 5 bushels or over, \$1.40 per bushel.

OUR POTATOES ARE GROWN IN THE FAR NORTH, exclusively in the Red River Valley, North Dakota and Minnesota. Red River stock always commands a premium over potatoes produced elsewhere.

Potato Eyes By Mail.

Best Way. There are many people living in cities or towns who have a small garden and would like to devote a portion of it to potatoes, but do not feel like paying the freight or express charges on a small quantity of seed. The freight alone on a few potatoes necessary to plant this space would amount to as much as we ask for eyes delivered at your door.

Our stocks were all grown in the best potatoes, from which the eyes are cut. These are prepared in such a way that they will keep in good condition for a month.

PRICE OF POTATO EYES, POSTPAID.

Per 60	Per 100	Per 250	Per 1,000
\$0.80	\$1.10	\$2.50	\$8.50

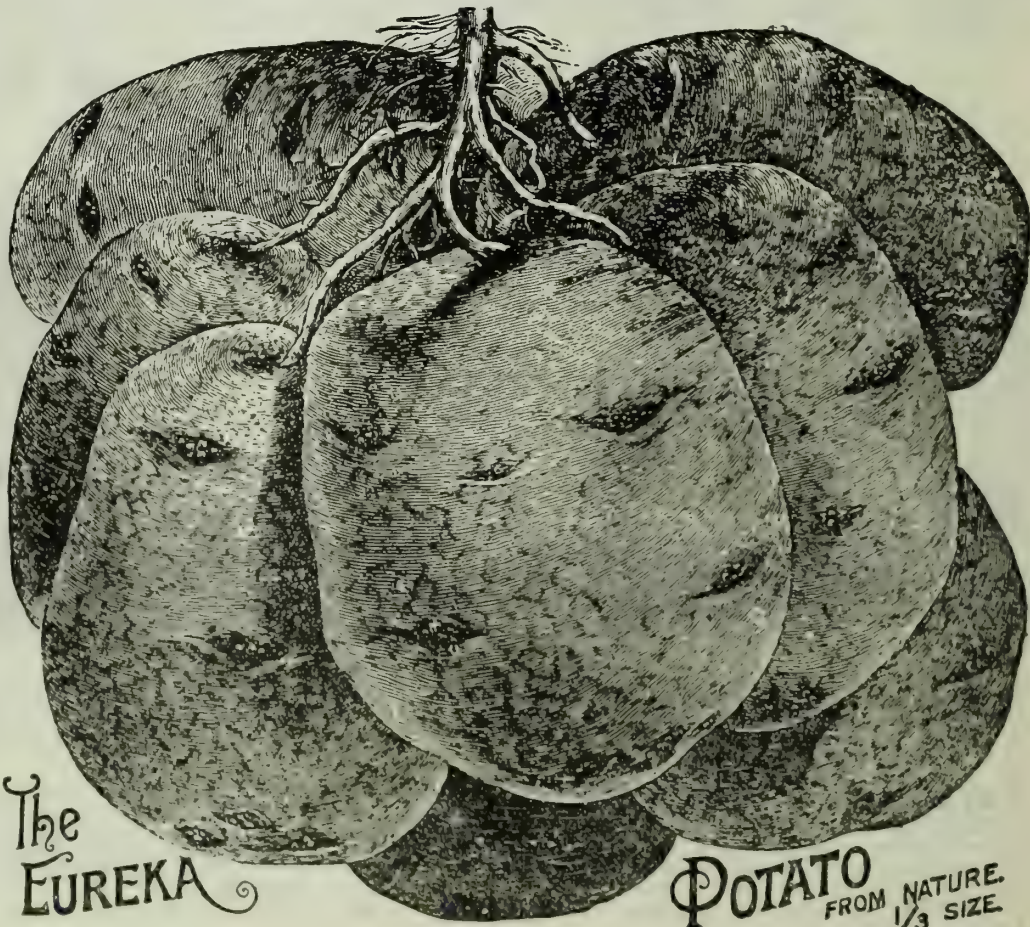
With careful culture sixty eyes produce four to five bushels; 250 eyes fifteen to twenty bushels.

"Eureka." Extra early. The vines resist drouth to a remarkable extent and the crop is matured before the hot, dry summer sets in. Planted with the Bovee, the EUREKA matured ten days earlier and the vines were entirely dried up, while those of Bovee made a second growth. It is an excellent keeper for so early a potato. We have eaten tubers which were in good condition the spring following. The firm, white flesh is of good flavor when cooked; the tubers are quite broad and of a shortened oblong form, thick through, with few eyes. The skin is smooth and of a snowy whiteness.

PRICE: Per lb., 30c; 3 lbs., 75c, postpaid. By express or freight: Per peck, 50c; per bushel, \$1.75; 5 bushels or over, \$1.50 per bushel.

Rural New Yorker No. 2.

One of the largest yielding varieties in existence. Large and unusually smooth, with few and shallow eyes, skin white as is also the flesh, which is of superior quality. Medium late and the best drouth resister. There is no other potato of more handsome appearance than the Rural New Yorker. Although it is a large yielder it grows but few and small vines. It is very hardy and will stand the heaviest manuring without getting scabby or spotted. **PRICE:** Peck, 50c; half bushel, 80c; 1 bushel, \$1.50; 5 bushels and over, \$1.40.



Red River Grown Seed Potatoes

Carman No. 3. THE BEST MAIN CROP

POTATO. The fame of this potato is abroad in the land, and it is unquestionably the very best main crop potato on the market. All the Carman seedlings (originated by Mr. Elbert S. Carman, late editor of the Rural New Yorker) have proven popular; but the Carman No. 3 is already rivaling in popularity the Burbank, and is undoubtedly a much better potato. Without any exception whatever it is the **GREATEST YIELDING POTATO** ever introduced, and it may be fairly claimed that it does not yield any small tubers at all. The tubers are borne very close to the plant, a single turn of the fork turning out every potato. It is of large size and of the shapeliest form. Eyes are few and shallow. It is a perfect keeper and is not surpassed as a table variety. Skin and flesh of extreme whiteness. It has no hollow hearts or any dark parts. We recommend this potato to our customers as being unqualifiedly **THE BEST** of all late sorts.



Carman No. 3.

Banner Potato. Introduced in 1899. The Banner is the finest main crop white potato on the market. No variety ever introduced has made as good a record in so short a time with all classes of growers on all kinds of soil. None surpass it in uniform handsome appearance. Its shape is a little oblong and slightly flattened, cooking through easily. The eyes are very shallow. The size large and desirable, very few under market size. Always smooth and regular in form; strong and vigorous from the very sprout. The flesh is very white, and whether boiled or baked has the same fine table qualities—always dry and floury. Season medium late. Choice sorted northern grown stock.

PRICE: Peck, 50c; $\frac{1}{2}$ bu., 90c; 1 bu., \$1.50; 5 bu. and over, \$1.40 per bushel.

Burbank. A STANDARD LATE VARIETY. Continues in good demand and is more largely used than any other. It is of good size, of fine form and an excellent yielder. The flesh is white, very mealy and of fine flavor and quality. The best potato for baking. This variety is well adapted to heavy soils. By freight, $\frac{1}{4}$ bu., 50c; bu., \$1.50; 5 bu., at \$1.40; by mail, 100 eyes, postpaid, \$1.00.

Early Rose. This variety has been a great favorite for many years and many growers still claim that it has never been excelled in quality and productiveness. Potatoes are long in shape, good size and light pink in color at the bud end. They cook mealy and are of the finest flavor. $\frac{1}{4}$ bu., 50c; bu., \$1.50; 5 bu. at \$1.40; 100 eyes by mail, \$1.00.

White Ohio. These are the same in all particulars as the Extra Early Ohio except in color, which is white or nearly so. White potatoes are preferred in most all markets, and as this sort is just as early, of as good quality and as productive as the Early Ohio, it will unquestionably supersede the older variety when it becomes better known.

PRICE: $\frac{1}{4}$ bu., 50c; bu., \$1.50; 10 bu. at \$1.40; 100 eyes by mail, postpaid, \$1.00.

Bliss' Triumph. Bliss Triumph is a standard extra early and one of the leading early potatoes all through the south. The tubers are nearly round, smooth, medium in size, reddish pink in color. Vines are small and compact, with short, thick stalks and broad leaves. This is one of the hardiest varieties known, and is not susceptible to rot, scab and other diseases; in fact, it can be grown on the most heavily manured land without danger of rot. It is the standard variety the country over for making a quick crop. With this variety it is peculiarly important that the best seed possible be secured as it is inclined to be a shy yielder. Northern grown Triumph will be found the best and most productive strain obtainable for all parts of the country; our stock this year is exceptionally fine.

PRICE: Lb., 30c; 3 lbs., 75c, postpaid. By freight: $\frac{1}{4}$ bu., 50c; bu., \$1.50; 5 bu., \$1.40 per bushel.

Our Potatoes Are Grown in the Far North. Our stock is grown exclusively in the Red River Valley, North Dakota. "Red River" stock always commands a premium over potatoes produced elsewhere. No seed potatoes can be compared with those produced in the North, either for vigor and freedom from disease, or for producing and long keeping qualities. Our seed is clean, healthy and free from scab; and in order that the product may be equally so, we urge our customers to treat the seed they plant with formaldehyde, as the soil may be infected.

Sir Walter Raleigh. One of Mr. Carman's latest and best introductions—a seedling of the Rural New Yorker No. 2. Sir Walter Raleigh resembles the Rural in shape, but is a little more buff in color; the flesh is whiter, and it is from four to six days earlier than the Rural, and the tubers are more uniform with practically no small ones, every one being of marketable size. It is unquestionably the best of the Rural type, being not only the finest eating potato, but also the heaviest yielder of that class. Peck, 50c; $\frac{1}{2}$ bu., 90c; bu., \$1.50; 5 bu., \$1.40 per bu.

Change Your Seed. There is profit as well as satisfaction in planting our seed, for the additional yield to be secured from a change of seed ought every time pay for the seed ten times over, so that the investment is a profitable one.

New (?) Varieties. There is nothing sold from seed catalogues in which so much humbuggery is exercised as in the item of seed potatoes. During the past few years hundreds of alleged new varieties have been introduced and sold at high prices, and yet (stop and think of it) there are not to exceed ten or twelve standard and well known sorts today.

Seed Sweet Potatoes

Many people hesitate to grow sweet potatoes, believing that a great deal of extra work is necessary to produce the crop. The only extra work connected with it is in the production of plants, digging a pit and filling with stable manure, covering with dirt and placing the tubers. It is not, however, difficult to grow plants. About the only difference in the field culture is that the ridges are made for sweet potatoes before setting out the plants. The only secret is to keep them free from weeds and the ground mellow. After the vines begin to run they will keep down the weeds themselves. A light, sandy soil is best.

The seed sweet potatoes which we offer are grown, stored and handled especially for seed purposes. They are not cold storage stock on which the germ has been killed, but are fresh and vigorous. It is necessary that they be handled quickly in spring as they do not keep well after being taken from the storage bins. We cannot guarantee them to all be sound upon arrival and we try to protect our customers by prompt service. For this reason we hold the potatoes until the weather is settled and then fill all orders at once so as to get them to our customers promptly. We usually ship from April 12th to 20th and notify our customers when we start them. Prices are subject to change of market, and we will be pleased to quote firm prices in March. Your order will be filled at ruling prices on date of shipment and you will be advised should the price advance or decline before April 10th.

Early Yellow Jersey. An improvement on the Yellow Nansemond. In spite of the many so-called new varieties, all of which we have tested, Early Jersey holds the first place. The earliest and most productive; of large, short chunky shape and of the very best quality. It will probably always remain the most popular market sort. Peck, 50c; bu., \$1.75; barrel, \$4.00. Ask for price in quantities.

Red Jersey. Similar in shape to our Yellow Jersey, but darker red color. Do not rot so quickly as the other kinds and are preferred by many. Quality is excellent. Peck, 75c; bu., \$2.25; barrel, \$5.00.

White Southern Queen. These are the large "Yams" which are so popular in the South. Even the seed potatoes are monster size and often weigh several pounds each. Peck, 75c; bu., \$2.00; barrel, \$4.50.

Any of the above varieties of sweet potatoes by mail, postpaid, at 35c per lb.; 3 lbs., \$1.00.

RATEKIN'S

RELIABLE VEGETABLE SEEDS

**"Your Money Back
if You are Not Satisfied"**



I Am Here To Tell You THAT THERE ARE NO BETTER SEEDS THAN RATEKIN'S TO BE HAD ANYWHERE OR AT ANY PRICE. I know this to be a fact from the most thorough trials in this country, both on heavy as well as on light, sandy soil at our FAIRVIEW TRIAL FARMS at Shenandoah, Iowa, as well as the experience of thousands of my customers, consisting of farmers and truck growers in every state and locality in this Union.

Few people have any idea of what trials of this kind cost. Last spring and summer my pay roll on my trial farms cost me over one thousand dollars in four weeks. This, however, does not include the corps of inspectors, or anything for my own time and many various incidental expenses.

This personal experience for my own satisfaction is one of the reasons why I am confident there are no better seeds grown than what I send to my trade and customers, and this is another reason why our vegetable and garden seed trade has doubled and multiplied each year until we now enjoy the largest garden seed trade of any seed house anywhere in the West.

We make it an imperative rule to try out all the so-called new introductory and new-fangled things that come along, holding fast only to such as prove of merit. Some seedsmen seem to think their list incomplete unless they have a lot of new brands to offer every year, going on the theory of Barnum when he said: "People like to be humbugged," and that there is a sucker born every second.

THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF THE RATEKIN SEED HOUSE has always been to GIVE EVERYBODY an HONEST, SQUARE DEAL, and in this way retain all our old customers and gain new ones, and to that end WE GIVE YOU AN ABSOLUTE GUARANTEE that IF you are NOT PLEASED IN EVERY RESPECT WITH SEEDS when received YOU MAY RETURN THEM TO US AT OUR EXPENSE and BACK GOES the MONEY PAID FOR THEM.

What We Do Free Delivery By Mail

All seeds ordered at packet, ounce, pound, one-half pint, pint or quart prices are sent by mail, POSTAGE PREPAID BY US, to any address in America. We do, however, sometimes send by express (PREPAID), instead of by mail, but only when there is a saving of cost to ourselves, and when convenient for purchaser to receive them that way.

POSTAGE BY MAIL means we deliver, postpaid, to any postoffice in the United States any article in this catalogue offered by mail.

BY EXPRESS OR FREIGHT means that we deliver the seeds to express or railroad here, and the purchaser pays all transportation charges on receipt of seeds. That means quantities listed at gallon, peck and bushel prices. No charges for packages.

SPECIAL PREPAID RATES TO OUR CUSTOMERS: Recognizing our claims as being among their largest shippers the EXPRESS COMPANIES HAVE GIVEN US FOR OUR CUSTOMERS A GREATLY REDUCED RATE. Thus a TWENTY-FIVE POUND PACKAGE would cost: To points in Illinois, Nebraska, Missouri, Indiana, New York, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, the Dakotas, Kansas, Michigan and Ohio from 40c to 90c.

To points in Alabama, Maine, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Tennessee, Connecticut, Mississippi, New Brunswick, Delaware, New Jersey and Virginia, from 90c to \$1.30.

To points in the far west and south—Arizona, \$2.00; New Mexico, \$2.00; Idaho, \$2.00; Oregon, \$2.00; Montana, \$2.00; Utah, \$2.00; Nevada, \$2.00; Washington, \$2.00.

Above gives you a fair idea of express charges. When seeds, etc., are quoted by express or freight it means that you pay the transportation charges; by mail, postpaid, that we prepay by mail. \$2.00 on 25 lbs. is the highest limit.

Always send plenty of money to prepay express charges, and if any is left it will be immediately sent back to you.

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO: MONEY—We prefer all money sent by postoffice or express money order; bank draft or registered letter. Do not send loose money in a letter without registering it; it is not safe, and if it is lost we are not responsible. In sending an order always write your name and address with especial care, giving the name of the postoffice, county and state. If your freight or express office is different from the postoffice do not fail to give it.

Write all remarks and communications on a sheet of paper separate from the order. Please use the order sheet enclosed in this catalogue or else use a sheet of paper separate from your letter. Sign order as well as letter with name and address.

POSTAGE STAMPS: We will accept stamps when other modes of remittance are inconvenient, and prefer them in 1 and 2 cent denominations. Be particular to use due caution so that they may be kept clean and do not get damp, stick together or attach to the order.

My Guarantee. 1. **SAFE ARRIVAL**—I guarantee that all goods sold by me shall reach my customers in good order. 2. **MONEY INSURED**—I guarantee to hold myself responsible for the safe arrival of all remittances sent to me by postoffice order, draft, check or registered letter. 3. **FREE BY MAIL**—I guarantee to deliver all garden and flower seeds, except at prices quoted by the quart, peck, bushel, 100 pounds, or barrel, free of all charges. 4. **AS REPRESENTED**—I guarantee my seeds to be as represented. If they prove otherwise I will refill the order free of charge, but it must be understood that I do not guarantee the crop under any circumstances.

Read What a Few Farmers Say: We have Received Thousands of Others Like Them.



From the Pens of Farmers Who Have Planted Ratekin's Garden Seeds

Which Is Proof Positive That The Ratekin Seed House Send Out Nothing But The Best.
They Give You Good Seeds, Good Measure and a Square Deal, Also Prompt,
Correct, And Courteous Treatment And Service.

Forest Green, Mo., Feb. 10, 1912.

Gentlemen: Please send me a copy of your catalogue for 1912. I have planted your seeds and they have always given good results and satisfaction and I want to order more seeds for the coming season. Truly yours, O. H. WILLIAMS.

Jefferson County, Okla., Feb. 26, 1912.

Gentlemen: I have sent to you for seeds for the last two years and they have always proven good, and I have been well pleased with them and shall want to send for my seed again this year. Kindly send me your catalogue by return mail. Yours truly, M. M. STOW.

Hope, Arkansas, Feb. 7, 1912.

Gentlemen: Please send me one of your seed catalogues for 1912, as I want to order some seeds from you. When I lived in Oklahoma, I bought seeds from you, and found them to be everything that you claimed for them. They gave splendid good results. Truly yours, R. L. CLOWERS.

Wright City, Mo., March 2, 1912.

Gentlemen: I received the seed I ordered from you and they are fine. Yours truly, FELIX LOGAY.

Muskegon, Mich., April 25, 1912.

Gentlemen: I received the seeds in good order, May 20th, and am very much pleased with them, and when in need of seeds again I will send an order to you. Very truly, HUGO RUZICKA.

Dear sir: The seed I bought from you last year grew so well I thought I would try some again this year. Very truly, PHILIP WEIGAND.

Dubuque, Iowa, May 5, 1912.

Gentlemen: I received the seed I ordered from you and I am well pleased with them. When in need of seeds again I will send you an order for same. Truly yours, MRS. SARAH SPENSLEY.

Mechanicsburg, Pa., Feb. 2, 1912.

Dear sirs: The seeds I ordered and received from you last year did remarkably well considering the dry weather that we had through part of the summer. The seed all grew and did nicely. I am enclosing you an order for more seeds for the coming season. Yours truly, DANIEL ASHENFELTER.

Bard, Texas, Jan. 2, 1912.

Gentlemen: Please send us your 1912 seed catalogue. I have always had splendid good luck with my garden seeds that I ordered and received from you. I hope I will receive a catalogue in time so as to send you my order for seeds in good time for planting. A. F. CLEFFE.

Caputa, S. Dak., Feb. 17, 1912.

Gentlemen: The seed which I ordered from you is entirely satisfactory. Very truly yours, JOSEPH DOLEY.

Boyd, Ky., June 7, 1912.

Dear sir: The seeds I got from you early in the spring were just fine. Truly yours, MRS. D. H. WOOLERY.

Anderson County, June 4, 1912.

Gentlemen: I received the seed I ordered from you and they are simply fine. I will send for more soon. Yours truly, J. CHRISTISON.

Culver, Ind., May 25, 1912.

Dear sirs: I received the seeds I ordered from you and allow me to thank you for prompt attention. They are sure fine. Very truly, IRA SPARKS.

Virgilina, Va.

Dear sir: I have always purchased my seeds from you and have always been well pleased with the results obtained from them. I will send you my order for what seeds I need, as I know I will be sure to get what I want. Very truly, B. ROYSTER.

Fredericktown, Mo., Feb. 2, 1912.

Dear sir: My old friend, T. A. Rose, of Knoblick, Mo., has told me of the splendid results he has had from seeds he has ordered from you. I want one of your seed catalogues, as I want nothing only good reliable seeds. Truly yours, L. H. WATTS.

Guthrie, Okla., Feb. 12, 1912.

Gentlemen: I have sent to you for my seeds for several years and have always had splendid success and results from them. I grow Watermelons extensively for the market and I have never found any trouble selling my melons grown from seed that I get from you and shall hope to obtain the same good results from the seed I am sending for by this mail. Wishing you success and every good wish, I am, truly yours, GILBERT KEMPLE.

Hester, Okla., Feb. 17, 1912.

Gentlemen: Received the seeds by this morning's mail and they were of the very best quality. I will send you another order in a few days. Very truly, MIKE O'DONNELL.

Germania, Iowa.

Dear sir: I am sending you another order for seeds. Everything I ordered and received from you last year did fine, although I did not get them planted until late. However, they all grew rapidly and matured before frost. I am ordering celery seed and would appreciate your advice as to culture of same, as I have never grown it before. Very truly, MRS. W. EVANS.

Alma, Mo.

Gentlemen: Have just received your seed catalogue. Many thanks for same. I have ordered and received my seeds from you for several years and they have always given us good satisfaction. We are now sending you another order for seeds. Please quote us the price on New Era Cow Peas, as we want to order thirty or forty bushel. Very truly yours, C. BROCKHOFF.

Fredericksburg, Mo.

Gentlemen: I received my seed wheat in fine condition and am well pleased with it. Think it some of the finest wheat I have ever seen. Very truly, W. CRAMER.

Dryden, Mich.

Dear sir: I have just received the seed I ordered from you and am well pleased with them. Will send you my order when in want of anything in your line. Thanks for prompt attention. FRANK BARTLET.

Kendallville, Ind.

Dear sirs: I want to tell you I have just received my delayed seed wheat in good condition and I am well pleased with it. I wish to thank you for your courtesy. Pardon me for doubting your reliability for a single moment. Very truly, E. C. SMITH.

Caledonia, Mo.

Gentlemen: The seeds I ordered arrived safely and was all O. K. They were some of the best seeds I have ever seen. I thank you for the promptness given my order. Very truly, DAVID HULL.

Mill Creek, Illinois.

Gentlemen: I have just received my seeds and I want to tell you they are fine, and I am well pleased with them. When I am in need of anything in your line I will send you my order. Very truly, P. A. CRUSE.

Pacomoke City, Md.

Gentlemen: Your favor enclosing check for settlement of railroad claim of \$16.70 received and in reply would say that I thank you very much for your effort in securing this for me, as it came in very good at this time. Should I need anything in your line this spring I shall send my orders to you. Truly, J. A. LOYD.

Sorrento, Colo.

Gentlemen: Seeds at hand yesterday and checked over. Everything came as ordered and I am well pleased with them. Yours truly, W. MURRAY.

Alphoretta, Ky.

Dear sir: I received my seeds all O. K. and was well pleased with them. I could not ask for better. They were the best to be obtained. They arrived in good condition. Thanks for prompt attention. Very truly, D. C. MAY.

Joliet, Illinois.

Gentlemen: I bought seeds from you for several years and have always been well pleased with the results obtained, therefore, I am sending to you again this year for what seeds I need or want, as I am sure I will get the very best. Very truly, H. WINKLER.

Pilot Grove, Mo.

Gentlemen: I received the seeds I ordered from you. They were all satisfactory. I want to tell of the experience I had from cabbage seed I purchased from you. I got 999 cabbage heads from 1,000 plants. I have always been well pleased with the results obtained from seeds purchased from you. Very truly, J. BOODY.

Christine, Texas.

Gentlemen: Please send your seed catalogue, also a copy of your nursery catalogue. We have used your seeds when in other location and have always been well pleased with them, and would be glad to get in touch with you again, as we want to send you another order for seeds. Respectfully, D. S. P. BLACK & SON.

Wholesale Price List

To Market Gardeners and Other Large Growers.

I realize that the market growers require a special selected strain of garden seeds. In view of this I have bred all the varieties listed up to the very highest possible state of perfection, and take great care that all seeds are of good, strong germination and true to name.

The only way I can gain the confidence of customers is by sending out good seeds, and from the great increase in my market garden trade each year I believe that my customers appreciate and realize the expense and care I go to in preparing seed for their use.

Prices quoted are strictly cash with order, f. o. b. Shenandoah. Bags free.

Peas, beans, beets and carrots are again short this year. Better order early to take advantage of the low prices.

Prices quoted are based on present crop on hand, which is sufficient under ordinary conditions. Should it be necessary, however, for me to replenish my stocks, or should there be any sharp fluctuations of the market there will accordingly be some slight variation in prices.

It is our purpose to protect, as usual, the thousands of our customers who look to us each season for their supply of seeds.

Asparagus.

	1/4 lb.	lb.
Columbian Mammoth White.....	\$0.15	\$0.45
Conover's Colossal.....	.15	.40
Palmetto.....	.15	.40

Artichoke.

Large Green Globe.....	\$0.90	\$3.00
Brussels Sprouts.....		
Ratekin's Improved.....	.60	2.00

Broccoli.

White Cape.....	\$1.00
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Beans.

	1/2 bu.	bu.
Ratekin's Bountiful.....	\$2.75	\$5.00
Long Yellow Six Weeks.....	2.50	4.50
Refugee or 1000 to 1.....	2.25	4.00
Improved Earliest Valentine.....	2.00	3.75
Ratekin's Stringless Green Pod.....	2.75	5.00
Giant Stringless.....	2.60	5.00
Black Valentine.....	2.50	4.50
Improved White Navy.....	2.00	3.75
Ratekin's Kidney Wax.....	2.75	5.00
Davis White Wax.....	2.50	4.50
Improved Golden Wax.....	2.50	4.75
Wardwell's Kidney Wax.....	2.50	4.75
German Black Wax.....	2.40	4.75
Challenge Black Wax.....	2.50	4.75
Currie's Rust Proof Wax.....	2.30	4.50
Hodson Wax.....	2.60	5.00
Pencil Pod Wax.....	2.60	5.00
Burpee's Bush Lima.....	3.25	6.00
Henderson's Bush Lima.....	3.00	5.75
Ratekin's Giant Poddled Lima.....	3.25	6.00
King of the Garden Lima.....	3.00	5.75
Siebert's Extra Early Lima.....	2.75	5.50
Kentucky Wonder (Old Homestead).....	2.40	4.75
Lazy Wife Pole—Special.....	2.25	4.00
White Dutch Case Knife.....	2.75	5.00
Red Speckled (Cut Short).....	2.50	4.75
Horticultural Pole.....	3.00	5.75
White Creaseback.....	3.00	5.75

Beet.

	1/2 lb.	lb.
Ratekin's Extra Early.....	\$0.70	\$1.25
Crosby's Egyptian.....	.45	.80
Extra Early Egyptian Blood Turnip.....	.40	.75
Early Eclipse.....	.45	.80
Extra Early Dark Beauty.....	.50	.90
Improved Blood Turnip.....	.50	.90
Half Long Blood.....	.50	.90
Detroit Dark Blood.....	.50	.90
Market Gardeners.....	.40	.80
Edmond's Early Blood.....	.40	.80

Cabbage.

Ratekin's Washington Wakefield.....	\$1.00	\$1.75
Early Jersey Wakefield.....	.90	1.75
Early Jersey Wakefield, Ratekin's Special Strain.....	1.50	2.50
Early Winningstadt.....	.90	1.75
All Seasons.....	.90	1.75
Ratekin's All Head.....	1.10	2.00
Surehead.....	.90	1.75
Ratekin's Autumn King.....	1.10	2.00
Danish Ball Head.....	1.10	2.00
Large Late Drumhead.....	.80	1.50
Copenhagen Market.....	4.50	8.00
Ratekin's Ideal.....	1.15	2.25
Premium Flat Dutch.....	.80	1.50
Ratekin's Drumhead Savoy.....	.90	1.75
Mammoth Red Rock.....	1.10	2.00
Red Drumhead.....	1.10	2.00

Cauliflower.

	oz.	1/4 lb.
Ratekin's Dry Weather.....	\$3.00	\$10.00
Ratekin's Selected Dwarf Erfurt.....	2.75	9.00
Early Snowball.....	2.00	7.50

Carrots.

	1/2 lb.	lb.
Oxheart or Guerande.....	\$0.80	\$1.50
Danver's Half Long.....	.75	1.40
Ratekin's Early Market.....	.80	1.50
Chantenay Half Long.....	.75	1.40
Early Scarlet Horn.....	.70	1.35
Long Orange.....	.40	.75
White Vosges.....	.40	.75
Giant Belgian.....	.35	.65

Celery.

Golden Self Blanching.....	\$1.90	\$3.75
Golden Self Blanching (Private Stock).....	4.00	7.75
White Plume.....	.90	1.75
Ratekin's Giant Pascal.....	.80	1.50
Golden Heart.....	.70	1.25
Kalamazoo.....	.80	1.50

Cucumbers.

Ratekin's Improved White Spine.....	\$0.40	\$0.75
Ratekin's New Crescent.....	.65	1.25
Japanese Climbing.....	.40	.75
Improved Long Green.....	.40	.75
Davis Perfect.....	.60	1.00
Klondike Famous.....	.50	.90
Boston or Jersey Pickle.....		
Cool and Crisp.....	.30	.50
New Astro.....	2.50	4.50
Fordhook Pickling.....	.90	1.75
Chicago Improved Pickle.....	.80	1.50
Early Cluster.....	.40	.75
Early Frame.....	.30	.50

Sweet Corn.

	Peck.	Bu.
Mammoth White Cory.....	\$0.80	\$3.00
Country Gentleman.....	.90	3.50
Peep o' Day.....	.80	3.00
Golden Bantam.....	.90	3.50
Early Minnestoa.....	.80	3.00
Crosby's Early.....	.75	2.75
Improved Stowell's Evergreen.....	.60	2.00
First of All.....	.75	2.75
Improved Adams.....	.75	2.75
Moore's Early Concord.....	.75	2.75
White Mexican.....	.60	2.25

Egg Plant.

	1/2 lb.	lb.
Ratekin's Black Beauty.....	\$1.90	\$3.75
Improved New York.....	1.85	3.50
Early Long Purple.....	1.60	3.00

Kohl Rabi.

Early Purple Vienna.....	\$1.50	\$2.50
Early White Vienna.....	.80	1.50

Lettuce.

Ratekin's May King.....	\$0.55	\$1.00
Big Boston.....	.60	1.10
Market Gardeners.....	.55	1.00
Ratekin's Early Prizehead.....	.35	.65
Iceberg.....	.30	.50
Early Curled Simpson.....	.30	.50
California Cream Butter.....	.30	.55
Grand Rapids.....	.40	.75

Wholesale Price List

To Market Gardeners and Other Large Growers.

	½ lb.	lb.
Black Seeded Simpson	\$0.30	\$0.55
Improved Hanson .....	.30	.50
Salamander .....	.30	.50
Tomhannock .....	.30	.50

Muskmelon.

Ratekin's Early Market	\$0.75	\$1.40
Burrell Gem .....	.80	1.50
Jenny Lind .....	.35	.65
Paul Rose or Petoskey .....	.40	.75
Ratekin's Rockyford .....	.50	.90
Extra Early Hackensack .....	.35	.65
Small Green Nutmeg .....	.30	.50
Emerald Gem .....	.55	1.00
Improved Canteloupe .....	.35	.65
Osage or Miller's Cream .....	.35	.65
Long Island Beauty .....	.30	.50
Admiral Togo .....	.35	.65
Hoodoo .....	.35	.65

Watermelon.

Tom Watson	\$0.55	\$1.00
Ratekin's Champion .....	.45	.80
Ratekin's New National .....	.45	.80
Sweet Heart .....	.20	.35
McIver Wonderful Sugar .....	.20	.35
Kleckley's Sweet .....	.25	.50
Kolb's Gem .....	.25	.40
Mountain Sweet .....	.20	.35
Phinney's Early .....	.20	.35
Seminole .....	.20	.35
Peerless or Ice Cream .....	.25	.40
Triumph .....	.20	.40
Monte Christo .....	.20	.40
Cuban Queen .....	.25	.45
Black Diamond .....	.30	.50
Cole's Early .....	.20	.35
Apple Pie .....	.35	.65
Pride of Georgia .....	.40	.50
Light Icing .....	.25	.45
Gypsy or Georgia Rattlesnake .....	.20	.35
Dark Icing or Green Mountain .....	.20	.35

Onion.

Ratekin's Red Globe (Special)	\$0.85	\$1.60
Ratekin's White Globe (Special)	1.10	2.00
Ratekin's Yellow Globe (Special) .....	.85	1.60
The Ailsa Craig	1.50	2.75
Mammoth Prizetaker .....	.65	1.25
White Portugal or Silverskin .....	.80	1.50
Mammoth Silver King .....	.80	1.50
Yellow Globe Danvers .....	.55	1.00
Australian Brown .....	.55	1.00
White Bermuda	1.10	2.00
New White Queen .....	.85	1.60
Extra Early Bartletta .....	.85	1.60
Ohio Yellow Globe .....	.60	1.10
Southport Yellow Globe .....	.65	1.25
Southport White Globe	1.10	2.00
Southport Red Globe .....	.65	1.25
Large Red Wethersfield .....	.55	1.00

Parsnip.

Ratekin's Improved Hollow Crown	\$0.30	\$0.50
Improved or Table Guernsey25	.45
Improved Half Long25	.40

Parsley.

Moss Curled	\$0.65	\$1.25
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Pepper.

Mammoth Ruby King	\$1.10	\$2.00
Sweet Mountain	1.10	2.00
Large Bell or Bull Nose90	1.75
Chinese Giant	2.50	...
Red Cayenne	1.10	2.00

Peas.

	¼ bu.	bu.
Ratekin's New Wonder	\$2.25	\$8.50
Alaska	2.00	7.50
American Wonder	2.00	7.50
First and Best	1.65	6.00
Premium Gem	2.00	7.50
Nott's Excelsior	2.25	8.00
Everbearing	2.00	7.50
Gradus or Prosperity	2.50	9.00
Telephone	2.00	7.50
Mammoth Luscious Sugar	2.25	8.00
Improved Strategem	2.25	8.00
Champion of England	2.00	7.50

	¼ bu.	bu.
Bliss Everbearing	\$1.50	\$5.75
Yorkshire Hero	2.25	8.00
Tom Thumb	2.00	7.50
Marrowfat	2.00	7.50
Thos. Laxton	2.25	8.00
Horsfords Market Gardener	2.25	8.00
McLean's Little Gem	1.85	7.00
Alderman	2.30	9.00

Pumpkin.

Ratekin's Mammoth Prize	\$0.55	\$1.00
Japanese Pie .....	.40	.75
Early Sugar or Pie .....	.35	.60
Sweet or Sugar .....	.25	.40
Connecticut Field .....	.15	.25
Large Cheese Pumpkin .....	.15	.30
Yankee Pie .....	.25	.45
Mammoth Tours .....	.60	1.00

Radish.

Icicle	\$0.35	\$0.65
Improved Chartier .....	.30	.60
French Breakfast .....	.25	.45
Non Plus Ultra .....	.25	.45
Rosy Gem .....	.30	.50
Early Scarlet Turnip .....	.30	.50
Early Long Scarlet Short Top .....	.25	.45
White Strasburg .....	.30	.50
Early Frame .....	.25	.45
White Lady Finger .....	.35	.60
Scarlet Turnip White Tip .....	.30	.50
Cincinnati Market .....	.25	.45
Early Scarlet Olive .....	.25	.45
Black Spanish .....	.30	.50
Rose China Winter .....	.30	.50
Long White .....	.35	.60
California Mammoth White .....	.30	.50
Crimson Giant .....	.35	.60

Salsify.

Mammoth Sandwich Island	\$0.55	\$1.00
Wisconsin Golden .....	.50	.90

Spinach.

Victoria	\$0.15	\$0.25
Bloomsdale .....	.20	.25
New Zealand .....	.20	.35

Squash.

New Golden Hubbard	\$0.35	\$0.65
Early Bush Crookneck .....	.30	.50
White Bush Scalloped .....	.30	.50
True Hubbard .....	.45	.85
Warty Hubbard .....	.35	.65
Blue Hubbard or Marblehead .....	.40	.75
Sibley or Pike's Peak .....	.40	.75

Tomatoes.

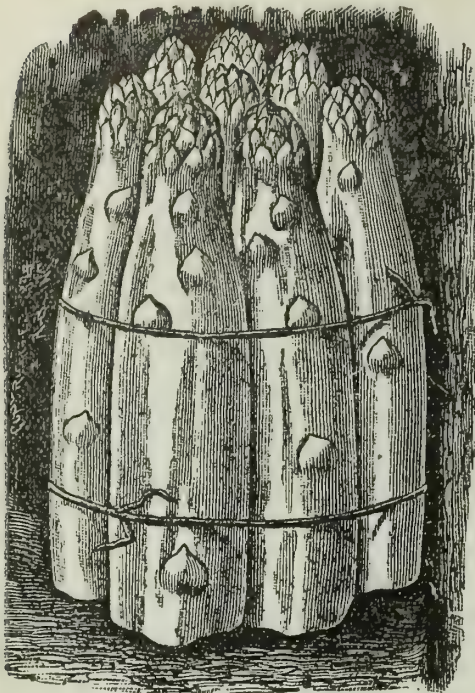
	¼ lb.	½ lb.	1 lb.
Ratekin's Magi Queen (Nameless)	\$2.50	...	...
Ratekin's Earliest .....	.60	\$1.10	\$2.00
Ratekin's Beauty .....	.75	1.25	2.50
Chalk's Early Jewel .....	.50	.90	1.75
Ponderosa	1.00	1.80	3.50
Spark's Earliana .....	.55	1.00	2.00
Livingston's Globe .....	.70	1.30	2.50
Livingston's Coreless .....	.70	1.30	2.50
Acme .....	.50	.90	1.75
June Pink .....	.50	.90	1.75
Matchless .....	.50	.90	1.75
Yellow Plum or Pear .....	.60	1.10	2.00
New Stone .....	.45	.80	1.50
Dwarf Champion .....	.50	.90	1.75

Turnip.

	½ lb.	lb.
Extra Early Purple Top Milan	\$0.25	\$0.45
Early White Milan .....	.30	.55
Golden Ball or Orange Jelly .....	.30	.50
Purple Top Globe .....	.25	.45
Early Snowball .....	.20	.40
Purple Top Strap Leaf .....	.25	.45
Early White Flat Dutch .....	.20	.40
White Globe .....	.20	.35

Ruta Bagas.

Purple Top .....	.35
Monarch .....	.35
Improved American .....	.35
White Sweet German .....	.35
Carter's Improved Hardy Swede .....	.35



Columbia Mammoth White.

quantity of selected roots of my growing postpaid, 35c per doz., \$1.25 per 100. By

Asparagus

CULTURE: Sow the seed in drills about one inch deep, and the rows about one foot apart. Keep the soil mellow and free from weeds during the summer, and in the fall or succeeding spring the plants should be set about one foot apart and the crown four inches below the surface. The beds should be narrow, so as to permit of cutting to the center. Before winter cover the transplanted beds with about four inches of manure. Salt is an excellent manure for asparagus. Sow a little on the surface in the spring, and it will keep down the weeds. The young tops may be cut for the table the second summer, but not very freely until the third.

Columbian Mammoth White. A new and entirely distinct variety that produces shoots which are white and stay white as long as fit for use. It is more robust and vigorous in habit and throws up larger shoots and fully as many of them as Conover's Colossal, and requires no earthing up in order to furnish the white shoots so much sought after. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 25c; 1 lb., 75c.

Conover's Colossal. A mammoth green sort of the largest size and of good quality. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 15c; 1 lb., 40c.

Palmetto. Mammoth in size, even and regular in growth and appearance. Usually ready for market before other varieties. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 20c; 1 lb., 50c.

Asparagus Plants. Asparagus can be grown either from the seed or plants, but by growing from plants you get from one to two years' start and are more sure of a perfect stand. The plants should be set very early in the spring, or else late in the fall. At our nurseries we generally plant in rows three feet apart, with the plants one foot apart in the row. Select good, rich soil, the richer the better. I can supply a goodly quantity of any of the above named varieties. **PRICE:** By mail, express purchaser's expense, \$1.00 per 100, \$7.50 per 1,000.

Artichoke

This vegetable is a great delicacy, highly valued in all parts of Europe, and also one of the most prominent table vegetables in California and other parts of this country. The scales and bottom of the flower are eaten either boiled or raw as a salad. The young suckers are sometimes tied together and blanched and served in the same manner as asparagus. The plants thrive best in deep, rich soil, where water will not lodge about them during winter. Plants are set in rows three feet apart and two to three feet apart in the row. The crowns should be covered with coal ashes in the winter to shed the water, and over these a good covering of leaves, held in place by a little earth or litter. When spring arrives remove the leaves, but do not disturb the coal ashes until signs of growth appear, after which the ashes should be spread out over the ground. Seeds may be sown in the hotbed same as the tomato and transplanted in May. It makes a good growth the first year and some flowers may be had in September, but the second year all plants will flower and continue to do so for years.

Large Green Globe. The best variety for general use; buds large, scales green; very thick and fleshy. Pkt., 10c; oz., 35c; ¼ lb., \$1.00. For Artichoke Roots the great hog fattener and corn saver, see farm seeds.

Brussels Sprouts

One ounce will produce about 3,000 plants. Of the cabbage family, producing numerous heads on the stem, of the most delicious quality, as well as cabbage-like head at the top. Use and cultivate the same as winter cabbage.

Ratekin's Improved. An improvement on the standard American sort. It is thoroughly acclimated; dwarf, robust habit; will endure the climatic changes better than the foreign sorts, and much freer from mildew and aphids. Pkt., 10c; oz., 30c; ¼ lb., 75c.

Bore Cole---See Kale

Broccoli. Growth and habit like the cauliflower, except that it is more hardy, and the heads are not as compact. It is not desirable in warm or dry countries, but is of special value in the North. Cultivate and use the same as cauliflower.

White Cape. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 25c.

Ratekin's Bountiful. I consider this the best and most profitable green pod bush bean grown, and urge all my customers to give it a careful and thorough trial. See description and prices on next page.

"Vegetable Gardening," BY SAMUEL B. GREEN. A manual on the growing of vegetables for the home use and the market, treating on the rotation of crops, garden tillage, implements, seed growing, green houses, insects injurious to vegetables, methods of destroying them, garden herbs, with a complete classification of vegetables. This book is thorough, practical and a comprehensive guide to vegetable gardening and **SHOULD BE IN THE HANDS OF EVERY FARMER OR GARDENER.** 265 pages, fully illustrated, 50c.

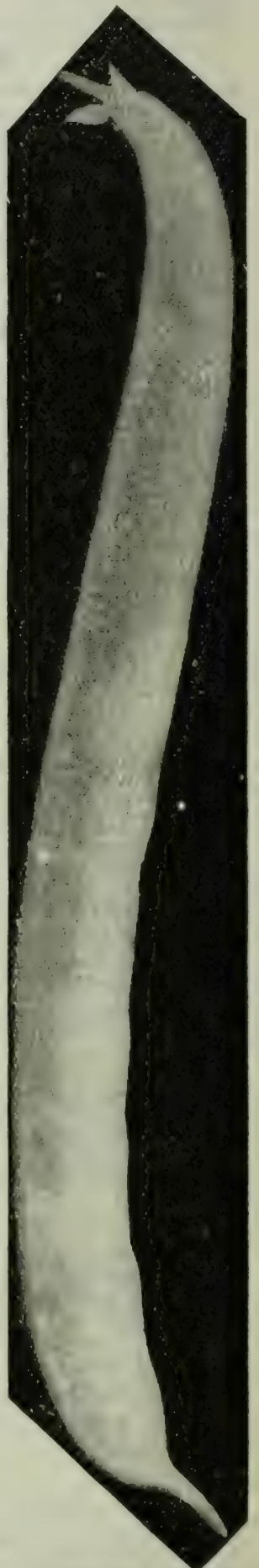
OUR SPECIAL OFFER: I will give one copy of this book free upon request with every order for garden seeds in the packet, ounce and ¼ lb., amounting to \$2.00 or more. Get your renighbors to send along their orders with you and obtain a copy of this valuable book **FREE.**

This offer does not include any previous discount or premiums, and is only good for orders for seeds in the packet, ounce and ¼ lb.

Gentlemen: I take great pleasure in informing you that the Columbian Mammoth White Asparagus that I procured from you is doing exceptionally well. It is the very best flavored asparagus I have ever tasted, and remains tender much longer than the ordinary varieties. Yours truly,
Watertown, Mass., Sept. 1, 1912. CHAS. WATSON.

Dear Sir: I grow asparagus for the market and like your seed and plants better than any I have ever tried. My trade demands the very highest quality of vegetables, and I can always depend upon getting the very best from your seed. Oct. 10th, 1912. C. W. TOWNER, Birmingham, Ala.

Ratekin's Bountiful.



Bush or Snap Beans---Green Podded

Bush Beans are the type generally grown for early string or snap beans, both for home use and for market. They come in two general classes, the Green-Podded and the Yellow, or Wax-Podded varieties. It is a question which type is the better. Some people like one and some the other. Some markets prefer the wax pods, while others prefer the green pods.

It is my personal opinion that there is really very little difference in flavor, yield, earliness, hardness or quality between the yellow pod and green pod beans, but still different gardeners and different markets have their preferences, so we must grow both kinds.

NOTE—Each packet of beans will contain two ounces, sufficient to plant about twenty hills. All beans priced by the packet, half pint, pint and quart are delivered post paid. Persons ordering by express, not prepaid, may deduct 8 cents per pint or 15 cents per quart from these prices quoted. Prices by the peck or bushel do not include delivery, but must be sent by express, not prepaid.

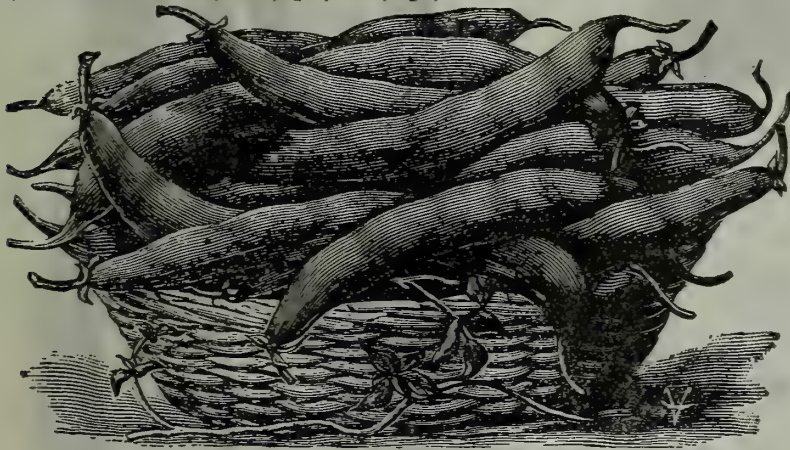
(One quart will plant 100 feet of drill).

CULTURE: Beans are somewhat tender, but it often pays to take some risk. Plant in warm, loamy soil at the beginning of settled, warm weather in spring, and at intervals for succession until August. Rows may be made two feet apart, and the beans planted a few inches apart in drills, or three to four beans in hills six to eight inches apart. Cultivate and hoe frequently, always, however, when the vines are perfectly dry. In hoeing draw the soil up towards the rows or plants.

NOTE—There are so many different kinds of beans that it is hard to tell just which are the best. I have selected those varieties which my customers like best, and will describe how they acted at the trial grounds.

Bountiful. (See cut on previous page). I have been growing this bean for several years now, and consider it by far the best early bean on the market. The plant is of remarkably handsome and thrifty growth, being practically mildew and rust proof. It is very hardy, extremely early and a heavy bearer. In the trial grounds it was the first to give pods fit to pick in the spring and the last to yield edible pods in the fall. In fact, early frost usually finds midsummer plants still in pod and blossom. Moreover, the pods are absolutely stringless and free from that tough lining not only when young, but this tender snap, brittle quality is retained even into maturity. The pods are of large size, broad, flat, extra long, very uniform in shape, solid, meaty and of delicious flavor. Greatly in demand in all Eastern markets, and will prove a money-maker to the gardeners of the West. I urge all my customers, especially market growers, to plant heavily of this variety.

PRICE: Pkt., 10c; pt., 40c; qt., 75c.



Improved Earliest Valentine.

excellent table qualities, but a little too late for first market. It is the variety that is almost always used by the canning factories. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; pt., 25c; qt., 45c; pk., \$1.75.

Improved Earliest Valentine. My improved strain of this famous old reliable green podded bush bean is ready for basket in thirty-five to forty days. As now perfected it has full, meaty round pods, which possess beauty, tenderness and a superb flavor. It is an ideal snap short bean, and one that always sells well on the market. Vines grow about fifteen inches high. My Earliest Improved is a great improvement over the original Red Valentine, and I count it equal to Bountiful as a market bean, the only difference in value being that Bountiful is flat, while Improved Earliest Valentine is round. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; pt., 25c; qt., 40c; pk., \$1.50.

Ratekin's Stringless Green Pod Bush. This bean, well known as Valentine, is bound to rank high with those who plant it. The pods are somewhat larger, round, fleshy and nearly straight. They average five inches in length, rich green in color, very tender and of fine flavor. One of the very best of green pods for home use and a good market sort. **PRICE:** Pkt., 10c; pt., 30c; qt., 50c; pk., \$1.75.

Giant Stringless Bean. If you want a truly mammoth green pod bush bean Giant Stringless will fill the bill. The pods are one-third larger than Valentine, round, full and fleshy. It is not quite as early or prolific as some of the above named varieties, but is a splendid garden variety for second early or succession. **PRICE:** Pkt., 10c; pt., 30c; qt., 50c; pk., \$1.50.

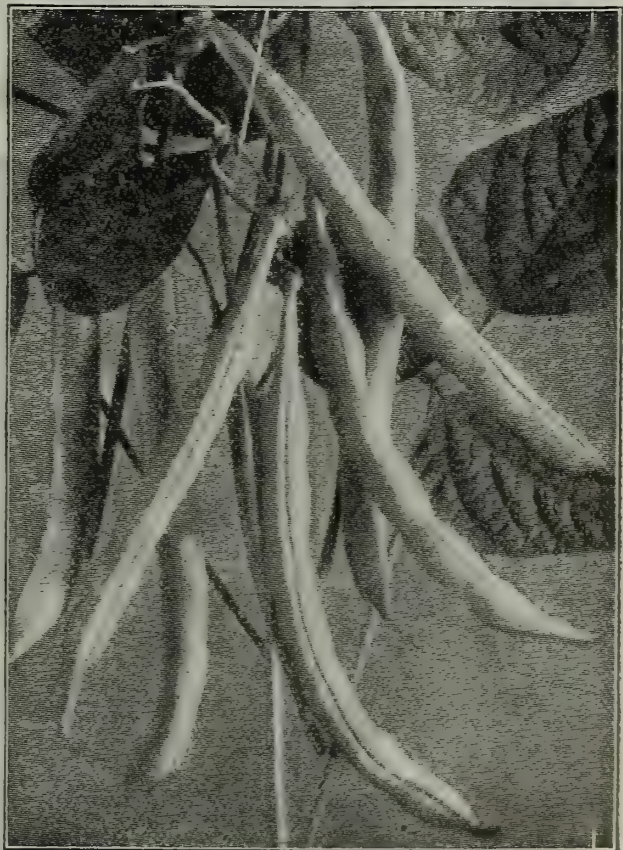
Black Valentine. A very hardy and productive green-podded bush bean, with a strong, vigorous bush. Ready for picking about the same time as my Earliest Improved Valentine, and produces its round pods much longer, straighter, but less fleshy. It is very handsome, solid, tender and of fine flavor. Very popular in the South on account of its blight resisting qualities; a long distance shipper. Grown extensively by market gardeners. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; pt., 25c; qt., 45c; pk., \$1.50.



Yellow Six Weeks.

Long Yellow Six Weeks. This is a favorite with all gardeners. The green pods are flat, thick and meaty, and the seeds, when ripe, are yellow. Hence the name. It is a very early variety, but at the trial grounds was slightly tough and not as tender as Bountiful. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; pt., 25c; qt., 40c.

Refuge or 1000 to 1. This bean is very popular in many sections and is one of the best for main crop. Pods are tender and have



Ratekin's Stringless Green Pod Bush.

Bush Beans---Wax Sorts



Golden Wax.

fect shape. Cooking quickly as snaps, shelling well when green and of highest quality in either way. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; pt., 25c; qt., 45c; pk., \$1.75.

Wardwell's Kidney Wax.

Many progressive gardeners will have no other than Wardwell's Kidney Wax Bean. In the South, especially, an enormous acreage is annually planted with great profit to the grower. It is one of the best, earliest and hardiest of the wax sorts. I cannot recommend it too highly to market gardeners as a favorite for shipping.

PRICE: Pkt., 5c; pt., 25c; qt., 40c; pk., \$1.50.



Wardwell's Early Kidney Wax.

Ratekin's Kidney Wax. I have realized the importance of a pure white tender bean for canners' purposes, and in the Ratekin's Kidney Wax I believe I have just what the people have been looking for. The beans being pure white, present the most attractive appearance when cooked. The fresh pods remain tender longer than those of any other variety. It is as heavy a yielder as the Davis White Wax and of a superior quality. The pods are straight, of a bright lemon yellow, brittle, meaty and entirely stringless at all stages of growth. It is the very bean the canners and truckers have been seeking for years, as it combines quantity and quality, which can be used as a string bean until large enough to shell, while the seed being large and pure white is most desirable for shell beans, both for summer and winter use. PRICE: Pkt., 10c; pt., 30c; qt., 50c; peck, \$2.00.

Davis White Wax. A very showy variety, and is largely grown for shipping and for the canning factories. The pods are a clear white color, plump, full and entirely rust-proof, or as nearly so as any bean may be. This is an excellent variety, but does not retain its tenderness as long as Ratekin's Kidney Wax. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; pt., 25c; qt., 45c; pk., \$1.75.

Improved Golden Wax. In spite of all the new sorts of beans being introduced every year our Golden Wax Bean still retains its popularity. This is a decided improvement on the old Golden Wax, as it is almost wholly free from rust. The pods are of a dark rich golden yellow color and of per-



German Black Wax.

I am now so thoroughly satisfied with this improved strain of Black Wax that I have discarded the old stock altogether; this being more vigorous and far more productive with length, borne well up among the foliage, thick, fleshy and of a clear, waxy white color. Remains a long time in condition for use as snaps. Beans small, oblong and jet black. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; pt., 25c; qt., 45c; pk., \$1.50.

Dear sir: Beans are a sort of hobby with me, and I take keen delight in growing improved varieties, both for home use and the market. Last season I tried your Improved Golden Wax with splendid results. The neighbors all envied my garden planted with your seeds, and I wish to thank you for the extras included in the order. Yours, C. V. Blackburn, Springfield, Ill., 8-22-1912.



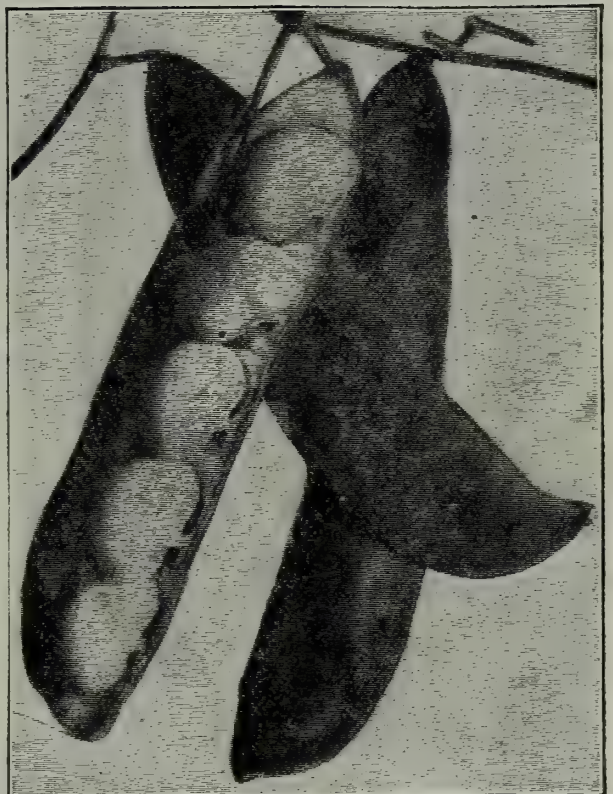
The Bush Limas are a comparatively new class of Lima Beans that are becoming very popular. They are the true bush form, growing from 15 to 25 inches high, and are fully two weeks earlier than the climbing Limas. There are many varieties of Lima Beans, but I am listing only those sorts that have made good at the trial grounds. These beans are good for shelling green for succotash and the like; also for dry beans for winter.

Burpee's Bush Lima. A dwarf or bush form of the large climbing Lima. The pods and seeds are of full Lima size. The seed which I grow is of uniformly dwarf or bushy habit, growing 18 to 20 inches high, with an erect branching stem. The size and luscious flavor of the bean are exactly the same as with the climbing Lima type. Sow in rows three feet apart and thin to 18 or 20 inches. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; pt., 25c; qt., 45c; pk., \$1.50.

Henderson's Bush Lima. The best and earliest of all Limas. It is small in size, but of high table merit and in favor with all housekeepers. It is wondrously prolific and just the thing for a family garden. A package or a pint will furnish sufficient for a good sized family. It is one of those beans hard to improve upon. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; pt., 25c; qt., 45c; pk., \$1.75.

Dear Sir: I am pleased to report that your Ratekin's Giant Podded Lima is all you claim for it—a very vigorous grower and a heavy yielder. I am well pleased with the seeds bought from you last spring. Respectfully yours, Mrs. L. E. Moffit, Galveston, Texas, 11-1-12.

Messrs: Kindly quote me prices on your Giant Podded Lima and also King of the Garden Lima in five bushel lots. I was so well pleased with the seeds I procured from you last spring that I desire to obtain my whole supply from you this year. Yours very truly, C. E. Gasconade, Greensboro, N. C., 12-10-1912.



Burpee's Bush Lima.

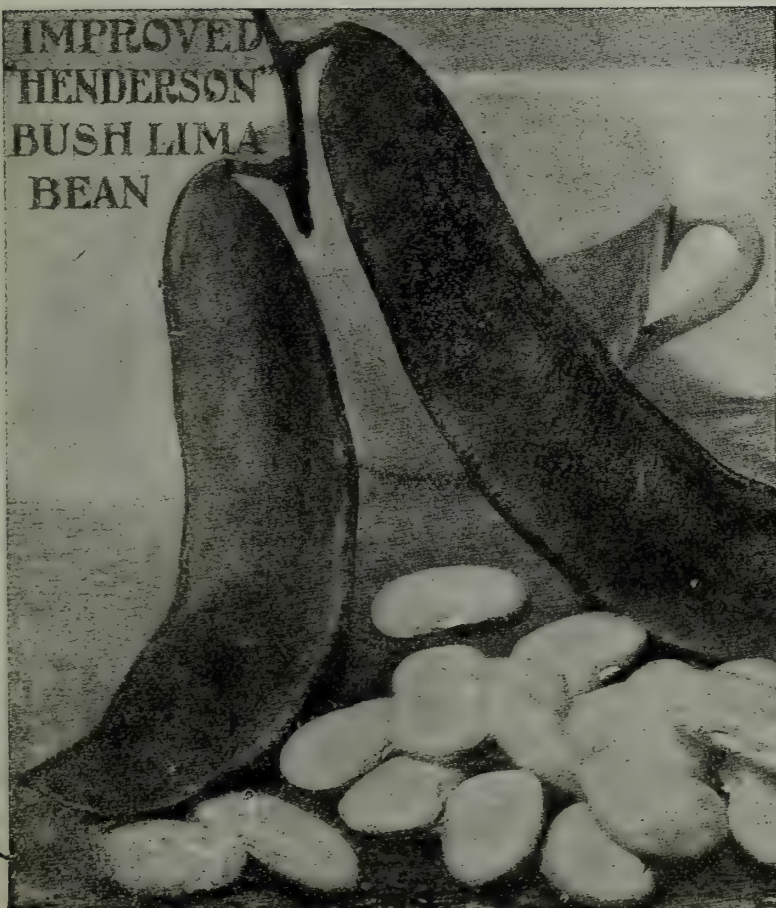
Pole or Climbing Limas

Ratekin's Giant Podded Lima. This, the largest podded and heaviest cropper of all the Limas. It is earlier than King of the Garden and a heavier yielder. A very vigorous grower, the vines attaining a height of ten to twelve feet, excelling in this respect all other Limas. I have been breeding this type for four years at the trial grounds and offered it in the catalogue for the first time last year. It is the largest podded, the largest seeded and most productive of all Lima Beans. **PRICE:** Pkt., 10c; pt., 35c; qt., 60c; pk., \$2.00.

Lima, King of the Garden.

This old standard sort is one of the best for main crop. It is vigorous in growth and immensely productive. The vines begin to produce pods near the foot of the pole, and the bearing season continues without interruption until frost. The pods are large, numerous and well filled. The beans are of mammoth size and uniform. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; pt., 30c; qt., 50c; pk., \$1.75.

Sieva Lima. (The Butter Bean of the South). Grows quickly, matures early, and is immensely productive, bearing continually throughout the season. A fine early sort. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; pt., 25c; qt., 45c; peck, \$1.75.



Pole Beans

The pole or climbing beans are more tender and require more care in culture than the bush varieties. They should be planted about two weeks later, and will succeed best in sandy loam. Each packet of pole beans will contain two ounces and will plant fifteen to twenty hills. A pint will plant about 100 hills.

Pole Beans **GREEN AND WAX PODDED.** The beauty of the pole bean is the fact that they bear much heavier than bunch beans and keep on bearing all fall. Many of the varieties of the highest quality can be had only in the pole form. They can be used either as green beans to cook, pod and all, or they may be left for shell beans.

Kentucky Wonder or Old Homestead. I believe that this is the very best pole bean grown, whether you get your seed of me or from some other reliable seedsman, just so you get the true seed. It has a long, very wrinkly pod, flat and tender, hanging in great clusters from the top to the bottom of the pole. Pod is light green and bean is brown in color. This is the best and most profitable bean for the market gardener, the pods being so showy and producing so abundantly. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; pt., 25c; qt., 40c; pk., \$1.60.

Lazy Wife Pole Bean. The green pods are wonderfully broad, thick, flashy, and, above all, absolutely stringless. They retain their rich, stringless and tender qualities until they are ripe, so much, in fact, that I am safe in saying that Lazy Wife is the very best of all snap sorts. The pods are six to eight inches long, exceedingly rich and fine flavored. This is an excellent sort, and sure to give satisfaction, especially in the South. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; pt., 25c; qt., 45c; peck, \$1.50.

White Dutch Case Knife. This variety yields an immense crop of handsome flat white beans of excellent flavor. Cooks easily. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; pt., 25c; qt., 40c; pk., \$1.60.

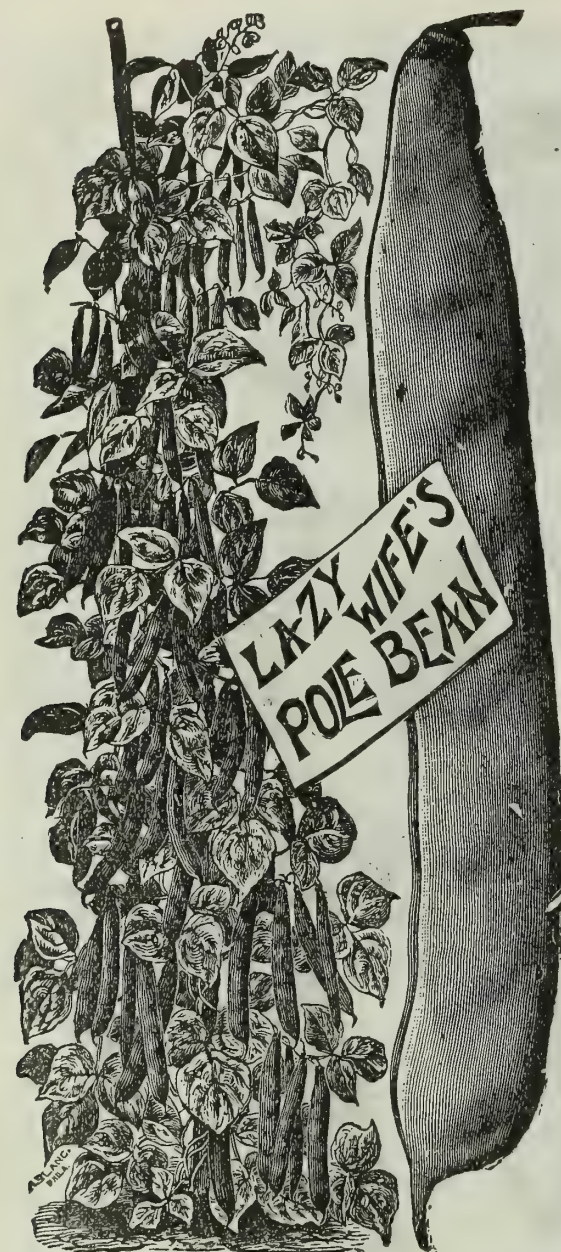
Red Speckled, Cut Short, or Corn Hill. An old variety; very popular for planting among corn. It will give a good crop without the use of poles; vines medium, twining loosely, with dark colored, smooth, leaves and white blossoms in small clusters; pods short, cylindrical and tender. Beans nearly oblong, cut off diagonally at the ends; white, covered at one end and slightly over the whole surface with reddish brown dots. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; pt., 25c; qt., 40c; pk., \$1.60.

Horticultural Pole Bean. This is one of the old favorites, and sometimes called the "Bird Egg" Bean; also "Cranberry." The mammoth pods are beautifully striped and splashed with brilliant carmine; very showy and attractive. The beans are large, a rich flavor and fine for shelling. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; pt., 25c; qt., 45c; pk., \$1.75.

Beets

I have taken great pains to procure the very best beet seed to be had, and a crop grown from my seed will prove it. My seed is all grown for me by a specialist in Germany, and is absolutely true. The seed forms beets of uniform shape and color, small tops and small tap roots; nearly free from fibrous or sprangling roots. The crop is very short this year, shorter even than last year, consequently prices are higher. Put your order in early. Remember that beet seed must be sown early, as it comes best when the ground is cool. Many fail to get a stand on account of too late a sowing and then blame the seed.

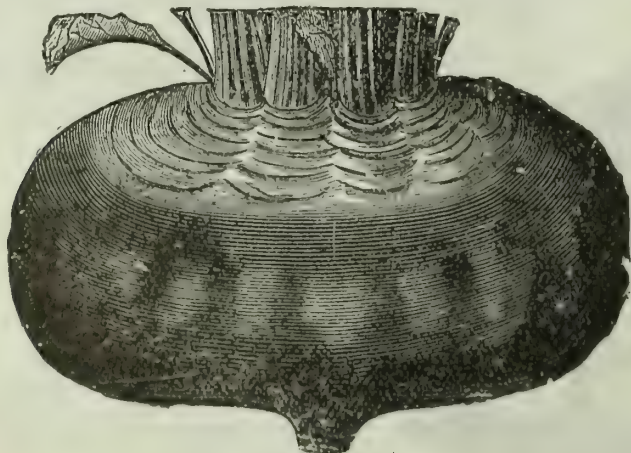
CULTURE: The best results are obtained on a deep, sandy loam. For general crop sow as soon as the ground will permit in drills eighteen inches apart, and thin out three inches in the row. For winter use the turnip varieties and keep covered with sand or sandy soil to prevent apples and potatoes. One or two ounces, or single packets



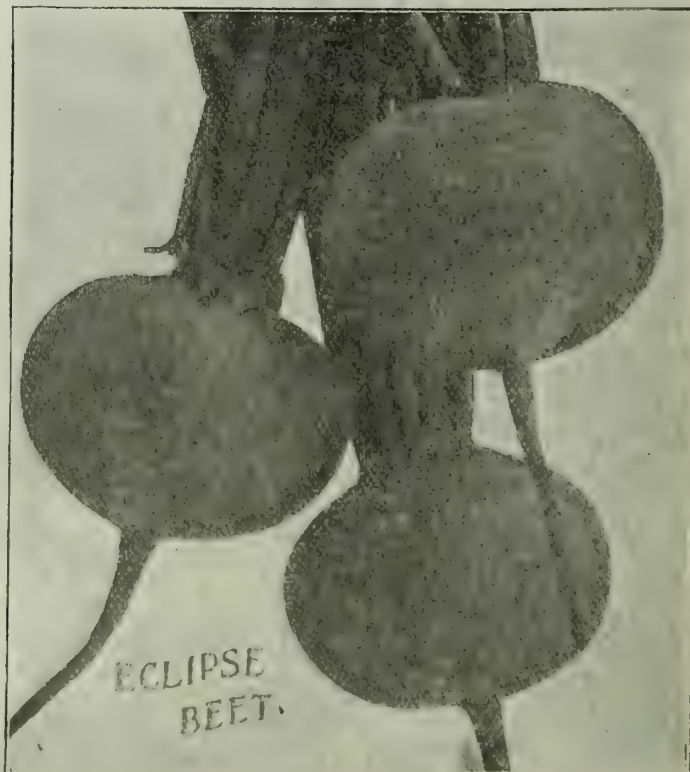
be sown in June, and the beets may be kept by storing in a cellar wilting, or they may be kept out doors in pits such as are used for of two or three sorts, will give a good supply for a large family. It is best to sow in freshly prepared soil, which should be pressed firmly over the seed. One ounce sows fifty feet of drill; four or six pounds for one acre.

Ratekin's Extra Early. I consider this variety the very earliest of all beets. It is of fine globular form, has sweet, tender flesh of alternate rings of light and dark pink. The light green leaves are sometimes used for greens. **PRICE:** Pkt., 10c; oz., 15c; ¼ lb., 40c; lb., \$1.25.

Crosby's Egyptian. The name of this variety is misleading, as it resembles the Egyptian only in its extreme earliness. It is larger, lighter colored and more spherical, one of the best for early planting out of doors. It is an excellent sort, and one which will stand a trial in every section. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 25c; lb., 90c.



Crosby's Egyptian.



Beets

Extra Early Egyptian Blood Turnip.

One of the best forcing varieties and excellent for early crop out of doors, being very early, with small top. Roots very dark red, flat on top, but flat beneath, with very small tap roots; flesh dark red, zoned with lighter shade, hard, crisp and tender when young, but becoming woody with age. PRICE: Pkt., 10c; oz., 15c; ¼ lb., 30c; lb., \$1.00.

Early Eclipse. Tops small, dark purplish green, shading to lighter color on outside of leaves. Roots nearly globular, with small tap root and very small collar. Flesh dark red, zoned with a lighter shade; very sweet, crisp and tender, especially when young. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 25c; lb., 90c.

Extra Early Dark Beauty.

One of the earliest ever grown. Beautiful oval shape, and the color is a rich dark red. Flesh is fine grain and cooks tender; rich and sweet. Its flavor is superb, free from side roots and smooth, and is very beautiful in market. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 25c; lb., 95c.

Improved Blood Turnip.

Popular everywhere; roots fine; symmetrical in shape; flesh deep blood red, tender and sweet; grows to good size; fine for early use and desirable for winter. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; 1 oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 30c; 1 lb., \$1.00.

Half Long Blood.

An excellent sort for winter use. Roots not as long as the "Long Smooth," but considerably thicker, always smooth and handsome. Flesh sweet, tender and of dark red color. An excellent keeper. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; 1 oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 30c; lb., \$1.00.

Detroit Dark Blood.

A most excellent turnip rooted sort. It grows to a large size, is of most handsome appearance, and is very productive in all soils and locations and in all seasons. Leaf, stems and veins are dark red, blade green, roots globular, perfectly smooth, dark blood red. Flesh bright red, zoned with a darker shade, very crisp, tender and sweet, remaining so a long time. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 30c; lb., \$1.00.

NOTE—FOR MANGELS AND SUGAR BEETS FOR STOCK FEEDING, SEE FARM SEEDS DEPARTMENT.



American Grown

Cabbage

Highest Quality

I pride myself on having the best, purest and highest grade Cabbage Seed that is offered or at least it is surpassed by none. Compared with the cost of seed there is more money in growing cabbage than in any other crop, and there is nothing that growers should be more particular about than the seed selection. My seed is all tested for germination and purity, and is of the very best.

SOW ONE OUNCE FOR 3,000 TO 4,000 PLANTS; FOUR OUNCES FOR ONE ACRE.

CULTURE: For plants of the earliest sorts sow seed in January or February under glass, and pick out in flats or frames about two inches apart each way. Transplant to open ground as soon in spring as the land can be properly prepared. A rich, warm, fibrous loam is best. Have the plants in the rows 20 to 24 inches apart, and rows at least two feet apart. Give thorough cultivation, and irrigate in dry weather if practicable. Protect against the ravages of cutworm, maggot and green worm. A little nitrate of soda applied around the plant is of great benefit. Potash applications, such as wood ashes or muriate, may also do much good. For late cabbage plants sow seed in drills in open ground during April and May, and transplant in June and July, giving the plants more room than allowed for earliest cabbages. Dusting with tobacco dust, insect powder, etc., or splashing with hot soapsuds, especially whale-oil soap solution, are good and safe remedies for some of the insect pests attacking plants of the cabbage.

Ratekin's Washington Wakefield Cabbage.

(Early). I introduced this cabbage in 1893, at which time my stock was limited. I received so many letters of praise and congratulations regarding it that it seemed as though everyone who tried it must have written to make known their satisfaction. All gardeners are so familiar with Wakefield Cabbages that description is unnecessary. The engraving shows the character of the Washington Wakefield. It is fully as early as any other strain of Wakefield Cabbage and double the size. No other stock equals it in earliness, size of head and purity. PRICE: Large pkt., 10c; oz., 25c; ¼ lb., 75c; lb., \$2.50. No other cabbage of which I have knowledge has aroused such enthusiasm among cabbage experts as has my Washington Wakefield.

Early Jersey Wakefield.

The earliest heading of extra early cabbages. Our seed is new and good. Heads conical, compact, solid and of excellent quality. The thick, stout leaves and compact habit makes it the best for wintering over and very early setting. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; oz., 20c; ¼ lb., 60c; lb., \$2.00.

Gentlemen: The seeds procured from you proved to be of the very best quality. The Washington Wakefield Cabbage was especially fine. I shall want more seed next year and will send to you. Yours truly,
MRS. S. GIBSON,

Jefferson City, Mo., Sept. 30th, 1912.
Dear Sir: I am pleased to report that the seeds purchased from you last spring were entirely satisfactory. The Wakefield Cabbage was especially fine. Yours truly,
MRS. ROGER TURNBALL,

Waco, Texas, Sept. 1, 1912.



Cabbage

Ratekin's Special Strain Early Jersey Wakefield

Undoubtedly the very finest strain of this well known popular variety in cultivation. The heads are extremely solid, pyramidal in shape, and with very little outside foliage. I grow this strain especially for the most **CRITICAL TRUCK GROWERS AND PLANTERS**. It is a little higher in price than the regular strain, but is well worth every cent of the difference. **PRICE:** Pkt., 10c; oz., 30c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., \$1.00; lb., \$3.00.

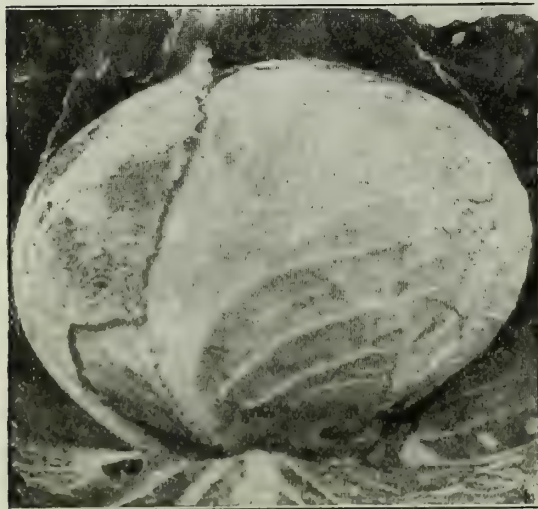
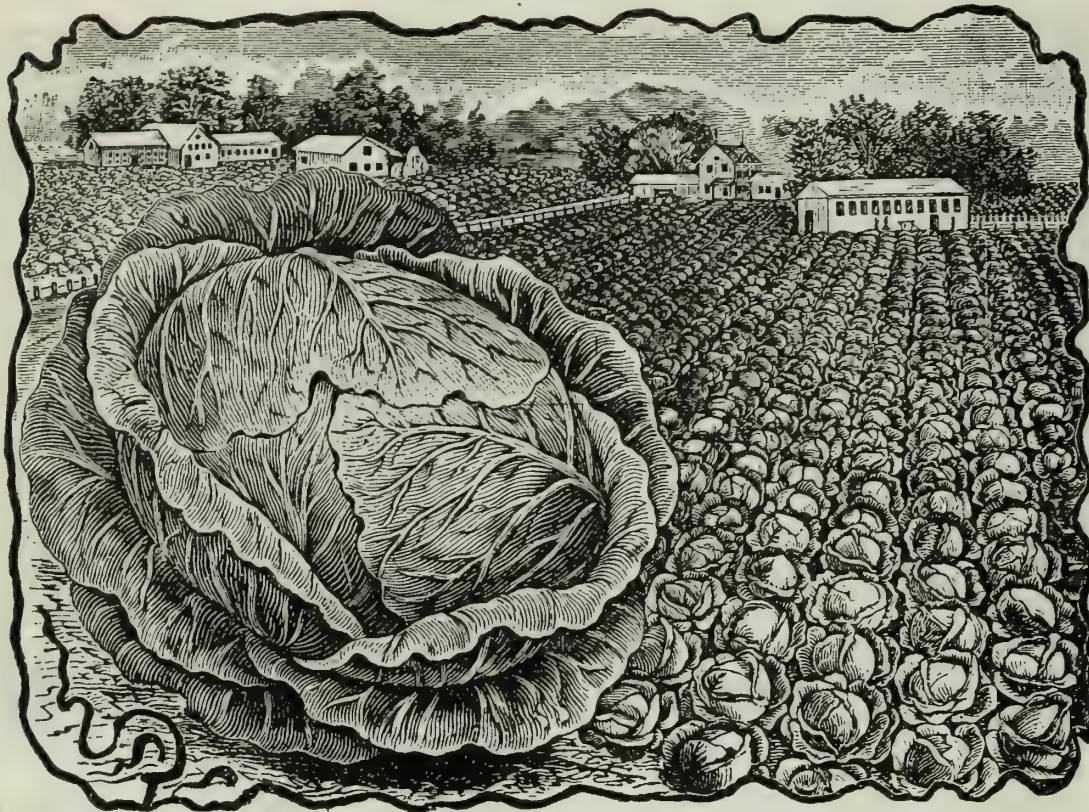
Early Winningstadt.

One of the best for general use, being very hardy and sure to head, forming a hard head when most sorts fail. Those who have failed with other kinds can hope to succeed with this. It seems to suffer less from the cabbage worm than any other sort. Plant very compact, with short, thick leaves. Heads regular, conical, very hard and keep well both summer and winter. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 20c; 2 oz., 35c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 60c; 1 lb., \$2.00.

All Seasons. This is generally grown on Long Island for the New York market. Heads very large, round, often nearly spherical, but usually somewhat flattened; very solid and of the best quality, keeping as well as the winter sorts. Plants very vigorous and sure heading; leaves large, smooth, with dense bloom. Remarkable for its ability to stand the hot sun and dry weather. Our trial has shown that heads which were fit for market by July 10th were still salable September 10th, the only change being increased size and density. One of the very best sorts for general cultivation. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 25c; 2 oz., 40c; $\frac{1}{2}$ oz., 40c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 75c; lb., \$2.50.

Ratekin's All Head. THE EARLIEST OF ALL LARGE CABBAGE, and considerably larger than any other early summer variety that is equally as early. The deep, flat heads are remarkably solid and the most uniform in color, form and size of any variety. The hard heads grow so free from spreading leaves that fully 1,000 more heads than usual with large cabbage can be obtained to the acre. It is really an all year round cabbage, being equally good for winter. **PRICE:** Pkt., 10c; oz., 25c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 75c; lb., \$2.50.

Surehead. A popular sort for main crop; never fails to form uniformly large and solid heads, which are tender and of fine, sweet flavor. An excellent keeper and a good shipper. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 20c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 60c; lb., \$2.00.



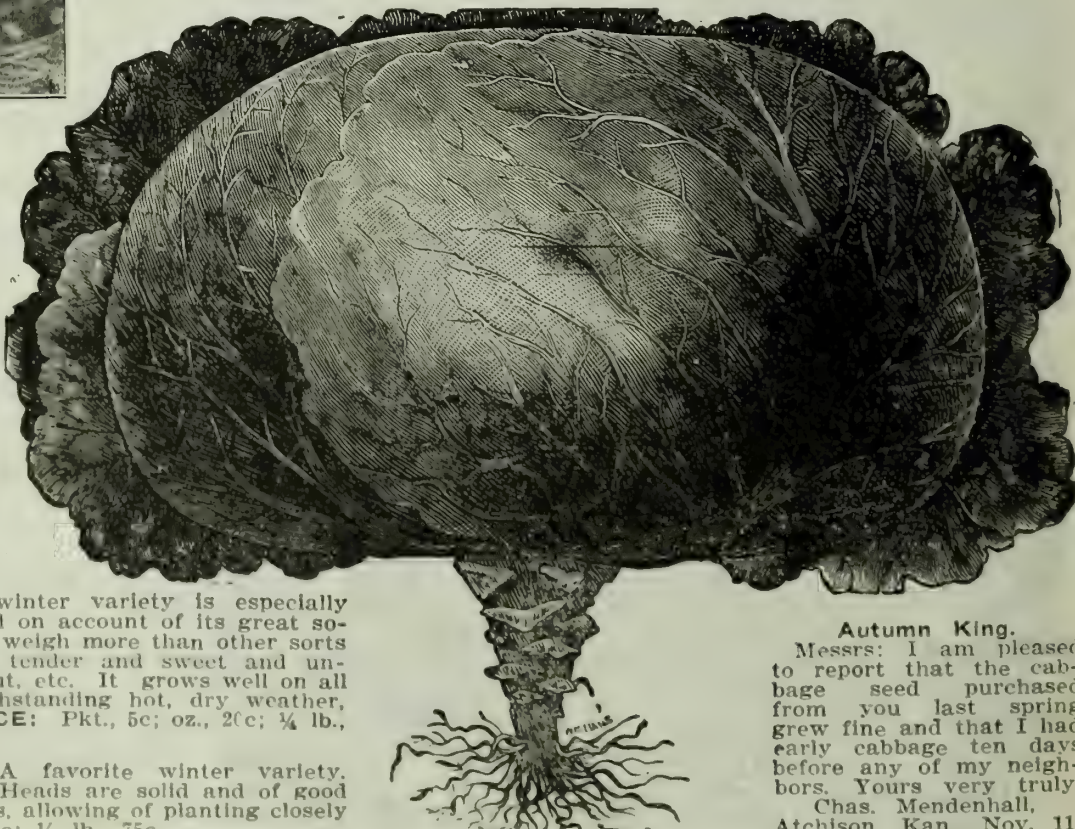
Ratekin's All Head.

Ratekin's Autumn King.

"AUTUMN KING" is an entirely distinct variety; best keeper we have ever seen; it produces enormous, solid heads of that dark shade of green that is most desirable in a cabbage, and has such small outer leaves that it can be planted closer together than the ordinary late sorts, and can be relied on to produce a greater weight of crop per acre than any other variety. A distinct feature of the "AUTUMN KING" is the peculiarly crimped leaves, which not only adds to its appearance, but enables it to be distinguished anywhere. It is unquestionably one of the best late sorts of today. **PRICE:** Pkt., 10c; oz., 20c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 70c; lb., \$2.25.

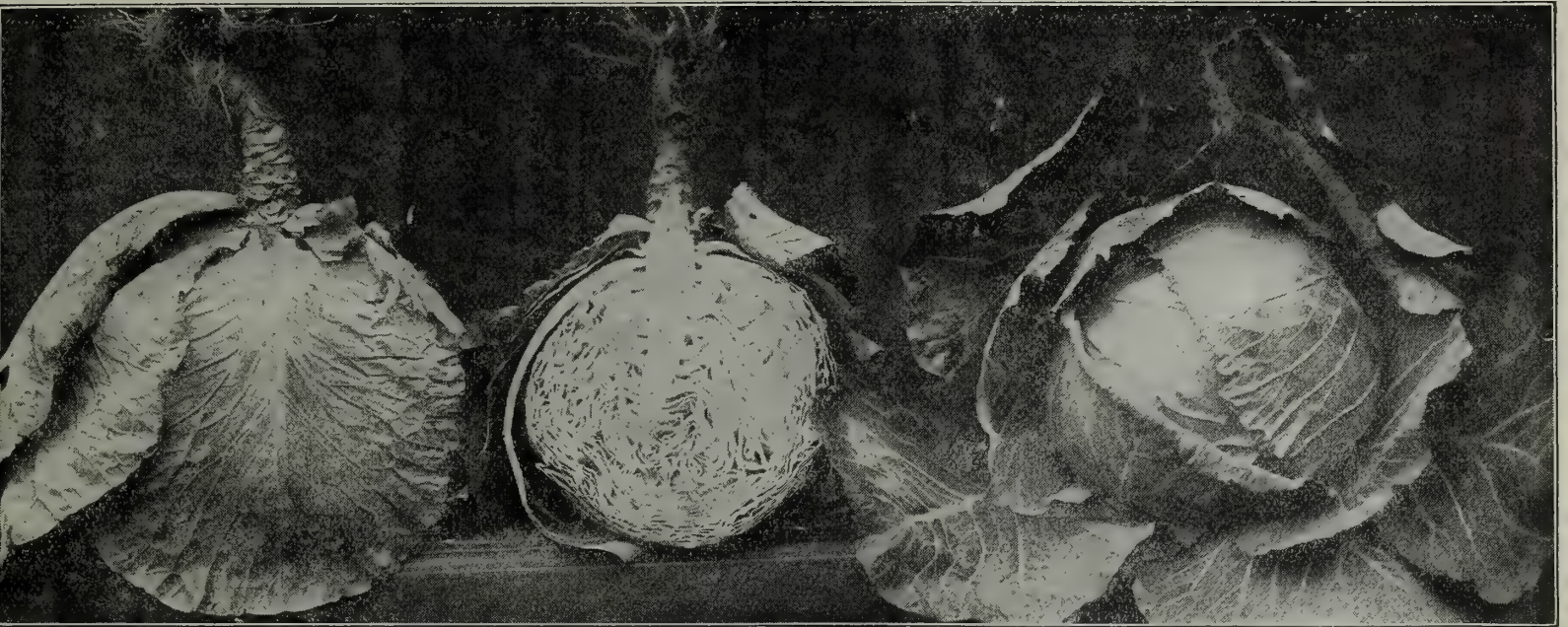
Danish Ball Head. This winter variety is especially desired on account of its great solidity and its keeping qualities. They weigh more than other sorts of equal size. The heads are crisp, tender and sweet and unsurpassed for boiling, slaw, sauer kraut, etc. It grows well on all soils and under most conditions, withstanding hot, dry weather, and does not rot in wet seasons. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 20c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 65c; lb., \$2.25.

Large Late Drumhead. A favorite winter variety. Heads are solid and of good texture, and have very few loose leaves, allowing of planting closely in the field. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 5c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 75c.



Autumn King.

Messrs: I am pleased to report that the cabbage seed purchased from you last spring grew fine and that I had early cabbage ten days before any of my neighbors. Yours very truly,
Chas. Mendenhall,
Atchison, Kan., Nov. 11.



Copenhagen Market

Offered Last Year for the First Time.
It Proved to Be the Best Early Cabbage from Denmark.

Copenhagen Market is certainly a valuable new, early cabbage, producing round, hard heads very early in the season. As early as the Charleston Wakefield. It is the most popular early cabbage in the markets of Copenhagen. Market gardeners here who tried it for the first time last season are simply crazy about it on account of its extreme earliness and solid ten-pound heads, with a small core and always of excellent quality. The plants are short stemmed, producing heads almost on the ground. The light green colored leaves are medium in size, saucer shaper, and are always tightly folded. The plants may therefore be set closer than most other early varieties. It is a vigorous grower and yielder, as are all cabbages from Denmark, and an excellent keeper. My stock of Copenhagen Market comes to me direct from the originator. My supply is limited to a little over 100 pounds. PRICE: Pkt., 10c; ¼ oz., 30c; ½ oz., 50c; oz., 90c; ¼ lb., \$2.50; lb., \$9.00.

Ratekin's Ideal Cabbage. As now improved the most profitable cabbage ever offered to the American cabbage grower. Absolutely sure heading; 999 out of 1,000 plants make perfect, saleable heads, averaging sixteen to twenty pounds; interior is creamy white, compact and crisp, unequalled for cooking or slicing; flavor especially fine. It is without exception the best winter keeper in the world. It will flourish on all soils. In fact, it will prove a gold mine to all cabbage growers. We want every one of our customers to give it a trial this season. The seed from these we offer you cannot be equaled. PRICE: Pkt., 15c; oz., 30c; ¼ lb. 90c; ½ lb., \$1.75; 1 lb. \$3.00, postpaid.

Premium Flat Dutch. The best "FLAT DUTCH CABBAGE" ever offered the American cabbage grower. Absolutely sure heading. Specially grown heads often reach fifty pounds each. Interior is creamy



Ratekin's Ideal Cabbage.

white, compact and crisp. Unequalled for cooking or slicing; flavor especially fine. It will flourish on all soils. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; oz., 15c; ¼ lb., 50c; ½ lb., 90c; lb., \$1.60.

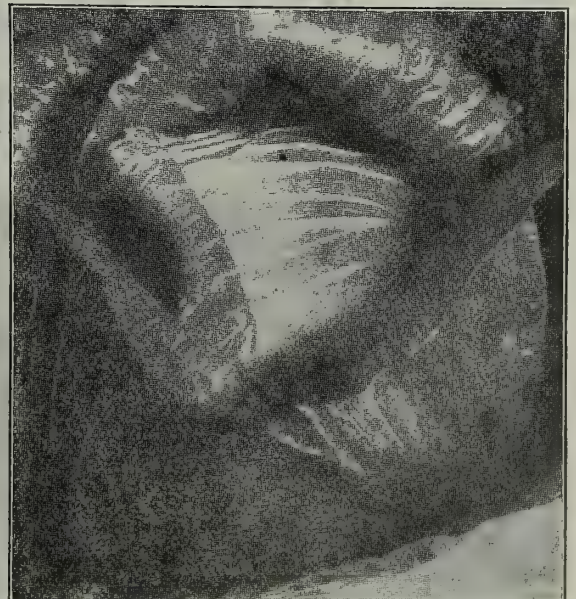
The most critical cabbage grower in the land need have no doubts about the quality of our cabbage seed.

Ratekin's Drumhead Savoy.

This is the hardest heading and best all-round Savoy. Plants are of strong growth, having only a moderate number of outer leaves growing closely about the large, solid round heads. Heads beautifully blanched and of the finest flavor. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; oz., 20c; ¼ lb., 60c; lb., \$2.25.



Ratekin's Drumhead Savoy.



Premium Late Flat Dutch.



Ratekin's Dry-Weather Cauliflower.

Cauliflower

CULTURE: The same as for cabbage, except that extra manure and plenty of water will pay upon Cauliflower. If the soil be dry water frequently, and if the plants could have a heavy mulch of hay or straw, it would keep the soil moist, and they would not suffer from drouth. The early kinds should be strong enough to plant out not later than the middle of April. The late kinds may be planted out same time as cabbage.

Ratekin's Dry-Weather Cauliflower.

Especially adapted for sections subject to long dry seasons, as it will grow well and produce the finest heads in spite of lack of moisture. Heads grow to a large size, are very solid, pure white and of delicious flavor. Valuable for growing in the southern states. Pkt., 20c; ¼ oz., \$1.00.

Ratekin's Selected Dwarf Erfurt.

One of the earliest in cultivation; small-leaved dwarf, for forcing or open ground, producing very solid, pure white heads of the finest quality. It grows about fifteen inches high, and is a sure header. Pkt., 20c; ¼ oz., \$1.00.

Early Snowball.

An extremely early dwarf variety, producing magnificent white heads of fine quality. Well adapted to hot-bed culture. Pkt., 20c; ¼ oz., \$1.00.

Carrots

CULTURE: While a sandy loam, made rich by manuring the previous year, is the best for the carrot, any good land, if thoroughly and deeply worked, will produce satisfactory crops. When it is possible to do so it is advisable to sow as early in the spring as the ground is fit to work, though good crops may in this latitude be grown from sowing as late as June 15, but success from such late planting is uncertain. For table use sow the smaller kinds as early as practicable in rows 16 to 18 inches apart. For field culture prepare the ground thoroughly and sow in drills 18 to 24 inches apart, using from 1½ to 3 lbs. to the acre, according to the distance between the rows. Cover one-half to one inch deep and see to it that the soil is pressed firmly above the seed. As soon as the plants appear use the cultivator or wheel hoe. Do not let the weeds get a start. Thin the smaller table sorts to 8 to 10 to a foot, and the field varieties to 3 to 6 inches apart in the row. For winter use gather and store like beets or turnips.

Oxheart or Guerande.

We do not hesitate to call this the most valuable. It is of beautiful shape and rich orange color. It will produce roots as early as any variety and continues of the best quality all the season. It is excellent for hogs and other live stock, and has yielded 1,200 bushels per acre. Cut off tops with scythe and pull roots with potato hooks. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 25c; 1 lb., 70c.

Danver's Half Long.

A popular, standard variety of rich, dark orange color. Very smooth and handsome. In form half way between Oxheart and the Long Orange, and wonderfully productive. Under special cultivation it has yielded from twenty to twenty-five tons per acre. One of the finest varieties in cultivation. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; 1 oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 20c; 1 lb., 60c.

Ratekin's Early Market.

Stump rooted, grows about the size of our Cincinnati Market Radish, excellent forcer; fine flavor; flesh a deep orange, fine grained. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 25c; 1 lb., 85c.

Chantenay Half Long.

Medium early, roots smooth, bright orange and of fine quality. An excellent market sort. Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 25c; 1 lb., 90c.

Early Scarlet Horn.

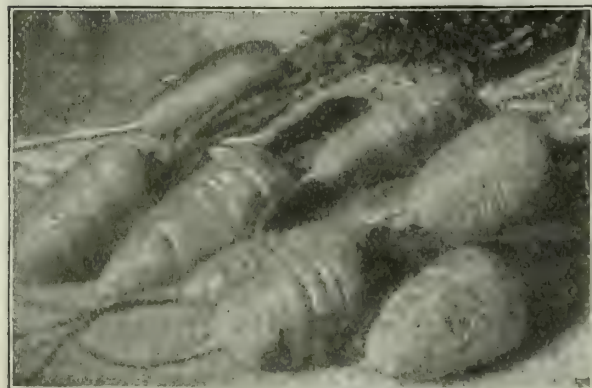
The favorite extra early variety. Very early; color orange-scarlet; fine grained and agreeable flavor. Tops small; has a short, stump-shaped root; grows well in shallow soil. The best early variety for table use. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 20c; 1 lb., 60c. **NOTE—**For stock carrots see, farm seeds.

CHUFAS OR EARTH ALMOND.

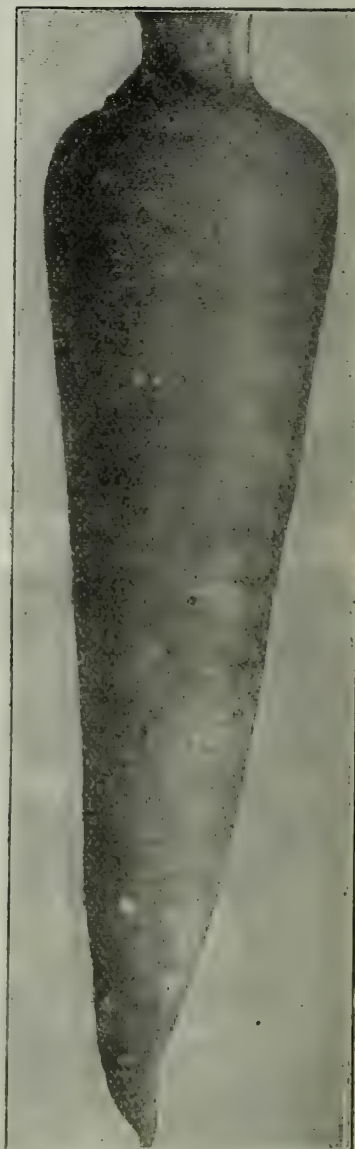
A nice little ground nut which is greatly liked by the children. In sweetness and flavor they resemble the cocoanut or almond, and are considered very nice put on the table in a fruit dish with candies, and as an after dinner relish. Very prolific, a single one yielding from two to four hundred. The nuts grow under ground, very near the surface, easily reached by pigs and poultry, and destroyed by them if they have free access. Plant in April, ten inches apart in 2¼-foot rows. Cover them lightly. If the seed is very dry soak them well before planting. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 20c; 1 lb., 50c.

CRESS.

Early Curled. Well known salad. Sow at intervals all season. Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 25c.



Ratekin's Early Market.



Danver's Half Long.

Celery

CULTURE: Sow the seed in a light, rich, dry border as early as the ground can be worked in drills eight to ten inches apart, and cover the seeds about a quarter of an inch deep, rolling or treading them in if the ground be dry. When fairly out of the seed-leaf they may be transplanted to another bed, or they may be thinned out to six or eight inches apart, and let grow until wanted to plant out in beds or trenches. The beds should be kept well weeded, and occasional soaking with water in dry weather will do the plants good. Early in July in the North, a month or six weeks later in the Southern States is the proper time to set the plants out in beds or trenches. Press the soil firmly against the roots. In the garden the better way is to set the plants in shallow trenches. We say shallow, for it is obviously a bad plan to remove all the good soil (as must be done in a deep trench), and put the plants in that which is poor. The plants must be set in a single row in a narrow trench; or the trench may be made into a bed wide enough to hold two, three or four rows, and in this case the plants are in a compact form to be covered for the winter where they grow. This will save much labor where there is no root-cellar for storage, as often happens to be the case. When grown in beds in this way the rows should be one foot apart, and the plants about eight inches apart in rows. The bed should be made very rich with thoroughly decomposed manure. The plants will need to be earthed up two or three times, and in doing this care should be taken not to let the earth get into the heart of the plant. In field culture the plants are set on the surface in rows four feet apart when the celery is to be earthed up in the field for early use, and two feet apart when the plants are to be taken up and blanched in the cellar for winter use. The plants are set six inches apart in rows. If not grown in beds the best way to store is to dig trenches in a well-drained spot in the open ground one foot wide, and at a depth of a few inches less than the height of the celery. The plants are then lifted and set close together. When severe cold weather comes on cover gradually with leaves, hay or straw, and place boards on top. The turnip-rooted or "Knob" Celery needs no earthing up, and may be planted in rows one foot apart.



Golden Self-Blanching.

This is without doubt the most popular celery grown. It is a **SELF-BLANCHING** sort, for with a little banking up or covering even the outer ribs assume a beautiful golden yellow color, while the "heart" or vine stalks are deliciously tender, brittle and sweet. We offer two strains of this variety, viz., **RATEKIN'S "PRIVATE STOCK"** and **"REGULAR"** stock, and for the following reason: Some years ago I procured from a celery grower in France some seed of the Golden Self Blanching variety. That year there happened to be a good deal of trouble in many parts of the country with California grown seed of the Golden Self Blanching Celery, for it did not blanch as well as usual, nor was the seed as pure. My customers, of course, noted the difference in the quality between the French stock and the California stock, and have always since insisted on having our French grown **"PRIVATE STOCK"** seed, no matter what the difference in price might be. In fact, I have on several occasions, when the particular French stock of seed I mention was very scarce and high in price sold it readily at from \$15.00 to \$25.00 a pound, when I was only asking \$3.00 a pound for the very best California seed.

Ratekin's Private Stock. (Sold only in sealed packages).

PRICE: Large pkt., 15c; oz., 50c; ¼ lb., \$1.75; lb., \$6.00, postpaid.

Regular Stock. PRICE: Large Pkt., 10c; oz., 25c; ¼ lb., 80c; lb., \$3.00, postpaid.

White Plume. Stalks, portions of the inner leaves and heart naturally white and become fit for use by simply tying up closely with soft twine. More used than any other variety by market gardeners. Our seed is of the highest quality and sure to please all. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; oz., 15c; ¼ lb., 50c; lb., \$1.75.

Ratekin's Giant Pascal. Stalks remarkably large, thick, solid, entirely stringless, very crisp and brittle. A vigorous grower and is self-blanching, clear white. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; oz., 20c; ¼ lb., 60c; lb., \$1.75.

Corn, Sweet or Sugar

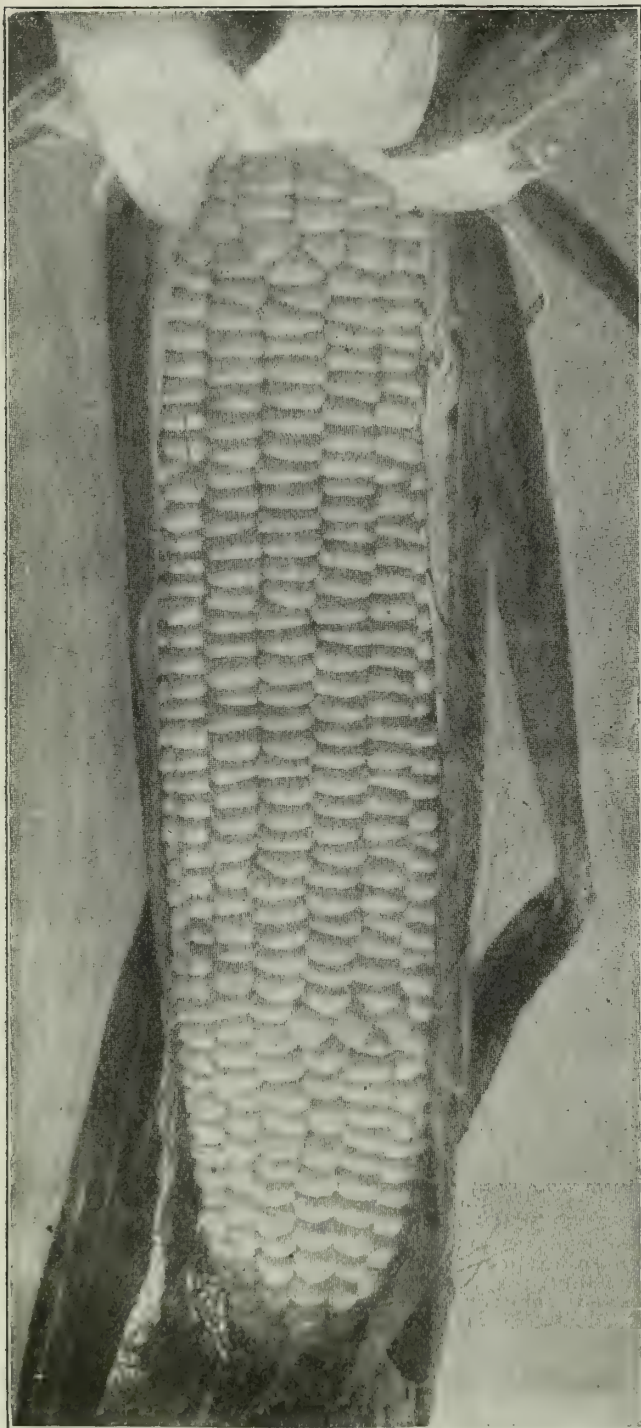
CULTURE: Plant in hills three feet apart each way, and five or six kernels in a hill. Hoe often and draw soil up to the stem; break off side shoots. Make the ground rich with well-rotted manure. If sown thinly in drills a greater yield from a given surface will be obtained. Prices quoted on sweet corn by the packet, pint and quart are postpaid.

Sweet corn is one of my specialties. Like field corn I grow it on a large scale and supply the most reputable seed houses in the country with their seed. Good sweet corn seed requires the most careful attention, especially during the drying season when the corn is cured. I cure all my seed by a natural process, using no artificial heat whatever, and seed procured from me can be depended upon to grow from 90 to 95 per cent strong. Market gardeners and growers who require seed absolutely true and of good, even grade should write me before ordering.

Mammoth White Cory. The largest and best extra early sweet corn. The stalks are no larger than those of the "White Cob Cory," but each stalk furnishes two or more large, fine shaped ears, very symmetrical and handsome, with no opening between the rows at the base. The grain is large, broad, very white and of remarkably good quality for such an early sort. The beauty and quality of this variety give it ready sale, even when the market is overstocked. PRICE: Pkt., 10c; qt., 30c; 4 qts., \$1.00.

Country Gentleman. This variety is often called the "shoe peg" corn, owing to the arrangement of the crowded kernels which are long and very sweet. The ears average nine inches in length and are borne from two to five and sometimes six on each stalk. The cob is small and very closely packed from tip to butt with slender, pure white kernels of the finest quality. If you try this variety you will like it. Pkt., 5c; pt., 15c; qt., 25c.

Country Gentleman.



Golden Bantam.

of years to improve it for family use. The ears are medium to large size, and our illustration was made by combining the picture of the lower part of an ear in fit condition for table use with part of an ear of dry seed corn. The grains are deep, exceptionally tender and remain a long time in an edible condition. The dried kernels are shriveled so much that they readily show its unusual sweetness. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; ½ pt., 15c; qt., 45c.

First of All. The Best Extra Early Market Sort. It is the earliest table corn, and brings double the price that better corns command later. PRICE: Pkt., 10c; pt., 25c; qt., 40c, postpaid.

Pop Corn

BIG MONEY IN LITTLE THINGS.

Very often there is good money in "little things" which, because they are small people are likely to overlook. Popcorn is one of these.

Boys or girls can grow an acre or two of popcorn and dispose of the product to their neighbors or to the merchant. There is usually a demand for this article and in this way considerable money can easily be earned. Why not plow up an acre or two and turn it over to the children. It will afford them pleasure and profit.

White Rice. A very handsome and prolific variety; ears short; kernels long, pointed and resembles rice; color white. Probably no variety of popcorn is superior to this for parching. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; pt., 20c; qt., 35c, postpaid; pk., 85c, by freight or express.

Queen's Golden. Color a peculiar lustrous golden yellow; pops to a rich cream color; very prolific. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; pt., 20c; qt., 35c, postpaid; pk., 85c, by express.

New Red Beauty. A valuable new rice popcorn, introduced by an extensive popcorn grower in Illinois. Ears medium to large; color bright red; deep grains and small cob; extremely early and productive. Highly recommended. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; ½ pt., 15c; pt., 25c; qt., 40c.

Sweet Corn

Peep O'Day. Originating in the far north this variety is therefore extremely early in maturing. Besides this very important feature it is a "Sweet Corn" in the true sense of the word, being remarkably sweet and tender. The stalks grow about three and one-half feet high, and are usually very prolific, producing from two to five ears each, which measure about five inches in length, and are well filled. PRICE: Pt., 20c; qt., 30c; 4 qts., \$1.00.

Golden Bantam. Is becoming each year more firmly fixed in popular favor because of its extreme early character, vigorous growth and surpassingly delicious flavor. We have had hundreds of letters from customers, giving it the highest praise as the finest extra-early sweet corn they have ever grown.

Although the dry grain is entirely free from any flinty glaze it is exceptionally hard and firm, hence can be planted earlier than any other true Sweet Corn. The stalks are dwarf and sturdy in habit, growing to a height of four feet. They bear two and three good ears, which are set well above the ground. The ears, five to seven inches in length, have eight rows of broad, yellow grains, extending to the extreme rounded tip.

Many market gardeners report that they find GOLDEN BANTAM their most profitable variety throughout the season (from successive plantings), as soon as customers become acquainted with the splendid flavor and distinct color.

GOLDEN BANTAM is as distinct in flavor from that of white varieties as in color—being almost literally "sweet as honey." The skin is so exceptionally tender that it does not need scoring or cutting across the grain. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; ½ pt., 15c; qt., 30c; 4 qts., \$1.00.

Early Minnesota.

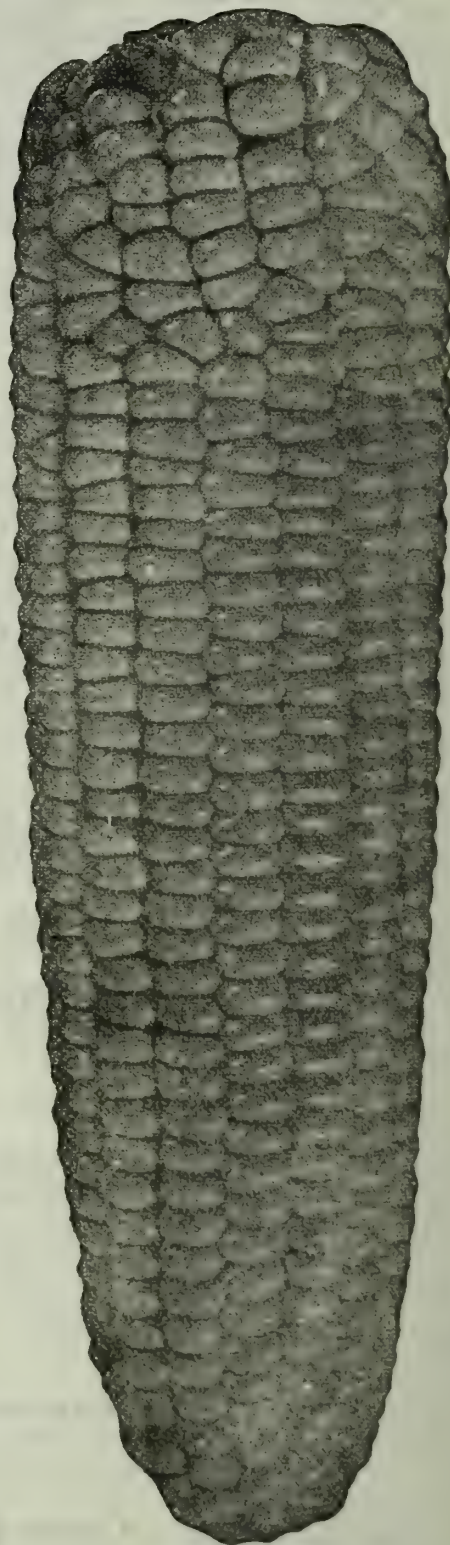
A standard early variety that has held a high place in the list of sweet corns ever since its introduction. The ears are of good size, well flavored and of the best cooking qualities. Valuable for either private or market use. PRICE: Pkt., 10c; ½ pt., 15c; qt., 35c.

Crosby's Early.

For medium early use and general crop this is one of the most desirable varieties. Ears are of medium size and the cooking qualities excellent. A good cropper and profitable for family use and as a market sort. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; ½ pt., 10c; pt., 35c.

Improved Stowell's Evergreen.

For many years Stowell's Evergreen Corn has been the most prominent main crop variety and is more largely planted than any other, being a general favorite with canners and market gardeners for late use. We have been selecting this for a number



IMPROVED
STOWELL'S EVERGREEN.
The Best Main Crop Sweet Corn.

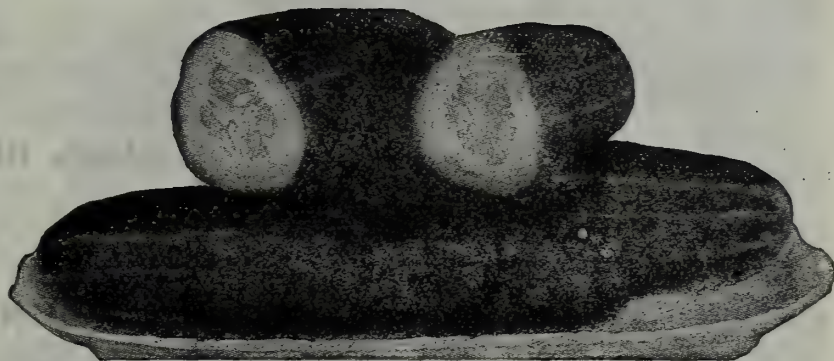
Cucumbers

Cucumbers succeed best in a rich, loamy soil. For first early, sow in hotbeds, in berry boxes or in small flower pots, six weeks before they can be set out in the open ground. When danger of frost is over, transplant in hills four feet apart each way. For general crop plant in open ground in May, about twelve seeds in hill. When danger of bugs is past, thin to four strong plants in a hill. For pickling, plant in June. Sprinkle the vines with plaster of air-slacked lime to protect from bugs, or use Slug Shot to kill the bugs.

Each packet of Cucumber seed will contain a quarter of an ounce, sufficient to plant about twenty hills. Two pounds will plant an acre.

Ratekin's Improved White Spine.

I consider this the finest flavored of all cucumbers. The vines produce enormous crops and are of unusually vigorous growth, with large thick leaves which withstand the attack of insects. The fruit is perfectly smooth, of a dark green color and measure from ten to eighteen inches long. They are always straight and very solid. The flesh is greenish white, firm, crisp and of the most delicious flavor. Packet, 10c; oz., 15c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 55c; lb., \$1.50.



Ratekin's Improved White Spine.

Ratekin's New Crescent Cucumber.

This new cucumber I bred up for extreme earliness and quality. It certainly has proved itself the earliest cucumber that I know of and one especially adapted to the hotbed or early garden. It sets its fruit quickly and produces beautiful cucumbers in the shortest possible time, and if kept picked, will continue bearing for a long time. Packet, 10c; oz., 20c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 60c; lb., \$2.00.

Japanese Climbing Cucumber.

A marvelous climbing variety introduced from Japan. The vines are strong growing and immensely productive, it being estimated that it will yield three times as much as any other variety in a given space. The fruits are of good size and of fine flavor, adapted especially for slicing and salads. Does best in dry warm summers. Packet, 5c; oz., 15c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 40c; lb., \$1.25.

Improved Long Green.

Fruits average ten to twelve inches in length. Skin a deep rich green; flesh solid, crisp and of excellent quality. This is an extra selected strain of the original type and can be depended upon to produce the true long dark green fruits, excellent alike for slicing or pickling. Packet, 10c; oz., 15c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 40c; lb., \$1.50.

Davis' Perfect.

By using this variety gardeners can produce out-of-door varieties that will sell in the market for the hot house forcing varieties. The shape is ideal. It is almost seedless one-third of its length from the stem, and the few seeds contained in its blossom end when in eating condition are so small and tender that they are hardly noticeable. Packet, 10c; oz., 15c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 40c; lb., \$1.50.



Improved Chicago Pickle.

Chicago Improved Pickle.

This variety, which originated with a leading pickle grower near Chicago, is considered the best variety there is, as it is very prolific, matures early and produces an immense number of desirable shaped pickles. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; oz., 20c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 60c; lb., \$1.90.

Early Cluster.

Vine vigorous, producing the bulk of the crop near the root and in clusters. Fruit short, with uniformly thick end, dark green, but paler at blossom end. A very productive sort. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 15c; $\frac{1}{2}$ lb., 40c; lb., \$1.50.

Early Frame.

An old and popular variety of medium size, straight and handsome; excellent for pickles when young. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 40c; lb., \$1.45.

Klondike Famous.

For flavor, uniform size, color and productiveness this Cucumber is absolutely unequalled. In addition to this it comes into bearing very early, continuing throughout the season until killed by frost. Always straight, never turning yellow. It is a hybrid of the White Spine type. The fruits average six to seven inches in length, and about two inches thick. PRICE: Pkt., 10c; oz., 20c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 50c; 1 lb., \$1.50.

Boston or Jersey Pickle.

Is used almost exclusively by the market gardeners near Boston for pickling. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; oz., 15c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 50c; lb., \$1.60.

Cool and Crisp.

A strain of the White Spine, somewhat like the Arlington, but larger. Fruit long, cylindrical, dark green. Fine for table use. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 20c; lb., 70c.

New Astor.

A variety of the highest merit for gardeners, some claiming that they made more money from a crop of these grown early in hot beds than from any other crop, as they yield a continual daily picking and sell quickly at \$1.00 per dozen. Fruit large, perfect shape, 8 to 12 inches long. They are of the very best quality for slicing, as the flesh is white and crisp and they have very few seeds. PRICE: Pkt., 10c; oz., \$1.

Fordhook Pickling.

A very small, oval, prickly variety, quite distinct from all others. It is grown exclusively for pickles; is the smallest of all varieties and should always be picked when young and tender. The seed is slow to germinate, requiring usually from two to three weeks. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; oz., 20c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 75c; lb., \$2.50.

Catawissa, Mo., July 3, 1912.

Gentlemen: I am writing just a few lines with regard to the seed I ordered and received from you last spring. They all came up fine. Please send me your alfalfa circular, as I want to order some alfalfa seed.

Yours truly, A. W. KOCH.

Farmington, W. Va., Feb. 29, 1912.

Dear sir: Enclosed find our order for garden seeds. If there is any deduction to make, please send it in white corn, beans and cucumbers. We sent to you for our seeds last year and was well pleased with them.

Very truly yours, R. J. CASTELLO.

Logan, Ohio, March 1, 1912.

Gentlemen: I ordered a lot of seeds from you in 1908 and they proved to be highly satisfactory and I am now sending to you for a copy of your catalog, as there are quite a lot of seeds I want for the coming year.

Yours truly, J. T. KINER.

Bentleyville, Pa., March 4, 1912.

Gentlemen: Please send me your new catalogue. I bought seeds from you last year and was more than pleased with them. I truly think them the best seeds to be obtained anywhere. They were the very best in quality and could not have been better. Hoping to get the seed catalogue, as I want to send in my order early. I am, Mrs. Anna Ruton.

Harrisburg, Ont., March 14, 1912.

Dear sir: Received the seeds I ordered from you all right and I am well pleased with them. Yours truly,

FRANK W. SMITH.

Short, Okla., March 20, 1912.

Dear sir: I wish to report the experience and results I have obtained from seeds that I ordered from you. I have always found them to be of the very best quality. I have been well pleased with them and am now ordering more. I have been recommending your seeds to everyone.

Very truly, A. J. JONES.



Ratekin's Black Beauty.

Dwarf Green Curled German.

September for winter and spring use. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 25c; 1 lb., 75c.

Egg Plant

CULTURE: Sow in hotbeds very early in spring and transplant when two inches high into a second bed or into small pots. If this is not done thin to four inches apart. Do not plant out until weather is perfectly settled and warm. Cool nights or wet weather will check them. Keep some back in frames for a second planting, in case of weather changing unexpectedly. Set out plants 3 by 2.

Ratekin's Black Beauty.

The earliest and best of all large fruited egg plants. The large fruits are thick, of most attractive form, as shown in the illustration. The skin is a rich, luscious purplish black, and on account of its rich coloring commands a higher price on the market than other varieties. The fruits set freely and develop quickly, so that the entire crop can be gathered before there is any danger of frost. This variety is destined to become very popular with truckers and gardeners. PRICE: Pkt., 10c; oz., 50c; ¼ lb., \$1.35.

Improved New York.

Our strain of this, the leading market variety, we believe to be unsurpassed. Very large size, skin deep purple, flesh white and of excellent quality; very productive. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; oz., 40c; ¼ lb., \$1.25.

Kale or Bore Cole

(One ounce will produce about 3,000 plants).

Hardier than cabbage, excellent for greens during the winter and spring; a splendid food for poultry. Cultivate like cabbage.

Ratekin's Improved Long Standing Kale.

A beautiful-crimpled sort; vigorous habit, perfectly hardy, of a bright green color. It furnishes an abundance of greens during the fall, winter and spring. PRICE: Pkt., 10c; oz., 20c.

Kohl Rabi

CULTURE: Sow in light, rich soil as early as possible in drills sixteen inches apart, and when established thin to six inches apart in the row. One or two plantings at intervals of ten days will give a succession until hot weather, when they fail to grow, but plantings may be made the latter part of July for fall use.

Early Purple Vienna.

¼ lb., \$1.00; 1 lb., \$2.75.

A bright purple. The leaf and stems are tinged with purple. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; oz., 30c; 2 oz., 55c;

Early White Vienna.

Flesh white and tender; good market sort. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; oz., 20c; ¼ lb., 60c; 1 lb., \$1.75.

Leek

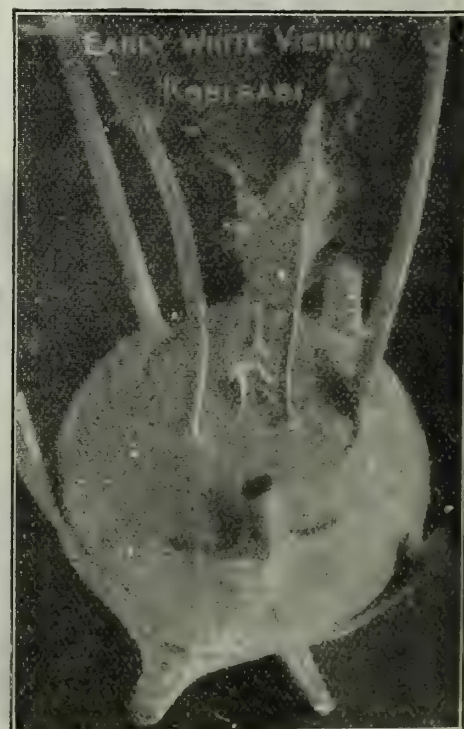
Belongs to the onion family and by many preferred to that vegetable. Sow the seed and care for young plants same as for onions, but they need a little more room in order to develop more fully. When the young plants are double the size of a goose quill transplant to a prepared bed in rows one foot apart and four or five inches in the row.

London Flag.

This variety is more cultivated in this country than any other. It is hardy and of good quality. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; oz., 15c; ¼ lb., 30c; 1 lb., \$1.00.



Leek—London Flag.



Dear Sir: I have just received the seeds I ordered from you, and I want to say they are some of the very finest seed that I have ever seen. Very truly, PETER JORDON.

Gentlemen: I received the seeds I ordered from you yesterday and they were entirely satisfactory. Very truly, E. D. JONES.

Gentlemen: I received my seeds I ordered from you, and they are fine. Could not be better. Very truly, F. C. COOK, Montford, Wis.

Gentlemen: I received my last order for seeds today and I am well pleased with them. They were fine. Thanks for your prompt attention to my order. Truly yours, ORA McKINLEY, Sexton, Kan.

Dear Sir: I received my seed in fine shape and am well pleased with them. Thanks for your prompt attention. Very truly, J. V. DAVIDSON, Wartrace, Tenn.

Dear Sir: I have received the seeds I ordered from you, and they are fine. I could not have gotten better seeds anywhere. When in need of more seeds I will send you an order. Very respectfully, W. W. HILL, Blain, N. C.

Dear Sir: I have received your seeds sent me, and they are certainly fine. Thanks for same. Yours truly, S. GILBERT, Hutton Valley, Mo.

Dear Sir: My seeds arrived in good condition and I am well pleased with them. Thanks for promptness. Truly yours, R. C. JACOBS, Burrough, Ga.

Dear Sir: I received the seeds you sent me, and they were fine. Very truly yours, A. HARTWIG, Thayer Mo.

Gentlemen: I am just in receipt of the seeds I ordered, and I want to thank you for giving my order prompt attention. They are all satisfactory. Very truly, ROY BADGERS, De Peysten, N. Y.

Dear Sir: My seed arrived, and I am much pleased with them. Will send you another order in a short time. Very truly, R. J. COLVIN, Whiteheart, Tenn.

Gentlemen: I have received the seed I ordered from you, and am well pleased with them. They are surely fine. Truly, E. BOLEN, West Frankfort, Ill.

Gentlemen: We received the seeds and they are fine. We were well pleased with them. Thanks for prompt attention. Yours truly, McNABB BROS., Zion City, Ill.

Chicago, Ill., April 3, 1911.

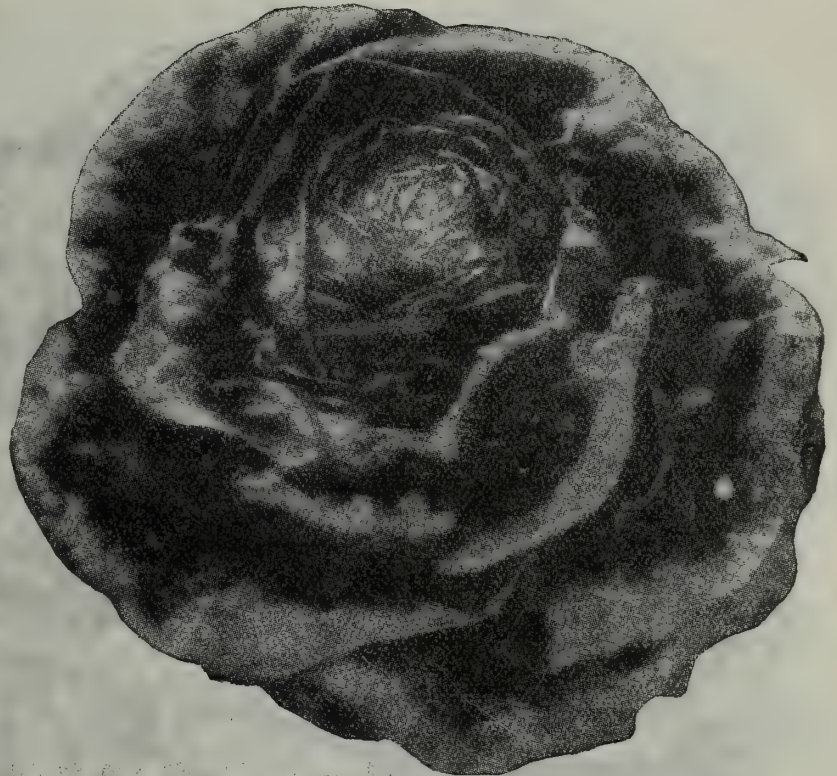
Lettuce

CULTURE: Sow the seed in hotbeds or flats during February or early March, prick the young seedlings out in flats or cold frame several inches apart each way, and, as soon as a nice, rich warm spot can be prepared in open ground in spring, transplant the well hardened plants in rows a foot apart, allowing eight to twelve inches space between the plants in the row. For succession sow seed thinly in open ground, and thin the plants five or more inches apart. Sow for succession every few weeks until the fall. Some varieties do well in a cool, forcing house during winter.

Ratekin's Early Prize Head. It forms a m a m m o t h head, and remains tender and crisp throughout the season; is prompt to head, but slow to seed; of superior flavor and very hard. Leaves of dark reddish brown color, variegated with dark green. It is an immensely popular variety. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 25c; 1 lb., 75c.

Grand Rapids. A forcing variety of superior quality and beautiful appearance, strong grower, free from rot, and keeps crisp and tender without wilting when exposed for sale longer than any other forcing lettuce. It is also a desirable variety for sowing in open ground. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 15c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 40c; lb., \$1.20.

Iceberg. Has an unusually solid head. The white main ribs of the leaves curve toward the center, which keeps the interior thoroughly bleached. It is quick growing and always crisp and tender, whether propagated in early spring or in the hot days of summer. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 15c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 40c; lb., \$1.25, postpaid.



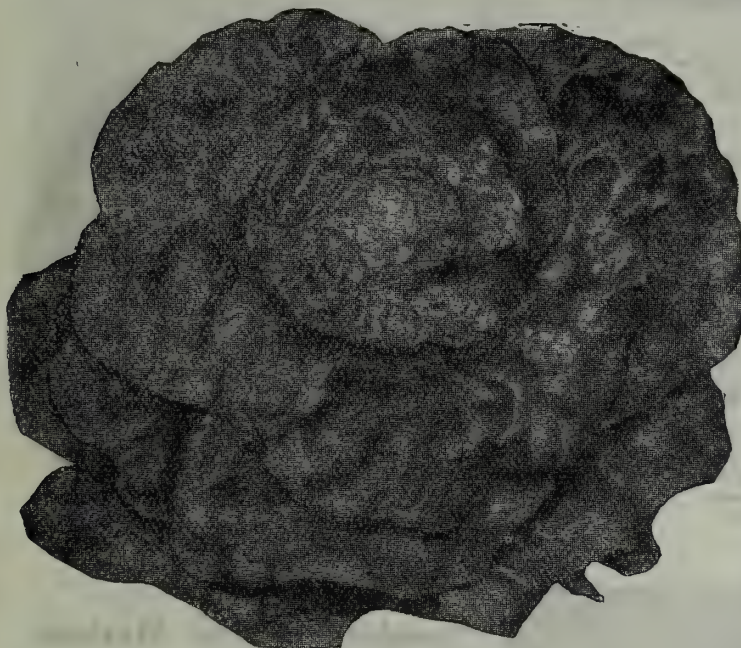
Ratekin's Early Prizehead.

Big Boston Lettuce.

A GRAND LARGE CABBAGE LETTUCE.

For Either Midsummer or Fall Use. Big, Compact, Tender and Crisp, Creamy-White Heads.

This grand variety has proven to be most valuable, steadily gaining in popularity until it is now more extensively grown than any other kind of lettuce, either for the private table or for sale, North, South, East or West. Whether grown in the open ground for summer and fall use, or in frames for spring, or forced cool in greenhouses for winter use it invariably gives both grower and user the utmost satisfaction, producing during all seasons, under ordinarily favorable conditions, splendid large buttery-yellow heads, packed with thoroughly blanched leaves, crisp, tender, sweet and white, delighting both the palate and the eye. This grand variety makes a handsome plant, with but few outside leaves, and stands long before bolting to seed. Although Big Boston is one of the best large-headed midsummer lettuces it is also peculiarly adapted for cool, open-ground culture; large areas of it may be seen in the vicinity of northern Iowa as late as November 15th; a slight covering of salt hay amply protects the plants from hard frosts, and when cut for market the leaves are as fresh, bright and untinged as if in midsummer. Thousands of acres of it are grown during the winter in Florida and other Southern States for shipping to northern markets. As far north as Minnesota it is a wonderfully popular summer lettuce. In fact, we know of no other variety that gives such general satisfaction under so many varied conditions. **PRICE:** Pkt., 10c; oz., 25c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 65c; lb., \$2.00.



Big Boston.

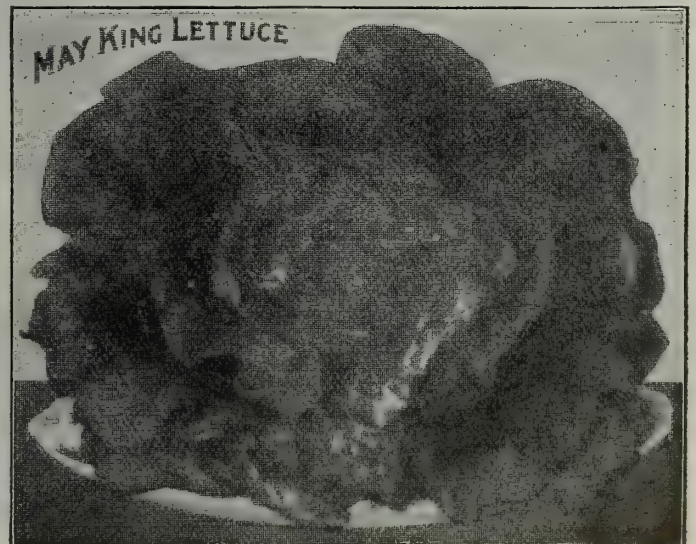
Ratekin's May King Lettuce.

Equal alike for forcing under glass or outdoor planting. The plants are of quick growth, practically all head and handsome. From early spring plantings in the open ground they grow quickly to a diameter of six to seven inches, with the broad, light green outer leaves folding closely about the round, solid head. In cool weather the edges of these outer leaves are lightly tinged with brown.

The inner leaves are blanched to a rich golden yellow, and have a **SPECIALLY FINE, RICH, BUTTERY FLAVOR**. The solid round heads are so firmly folded that they can be shipped to distant markets and arrive in the best of condition. It is the very best lettuce for early planting in the spring, and again during August and September for fall use. **PRICE:** Pkt., 10c; oz., 25c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 65c; lb., \$1.75.

Market Gardeners.

(Ratekin's Private Stock). Sold only in sealed packages. This is one of the very best of the "Butter" head lettuces. It is a very great favorite with market gardeners on the city markets, and with them holds the lead in point of popularity. This is getting to be equally true in other markets. **PRICE:** Large pkt., 10c ;oz., 15c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 50c; lb., \$1.90, postpaid.



Lettuce

Early Curled Simpson.

An improved variety of Curled Simpson, with large, loose head and excellent flavor. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 25c; 1 lb., 75c.

California Cream Butter.

A splendid variety for summer. It produces a very large and white head. It will stand extreme heat and is slow to go to seed. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; oz., 15c; ¼ lb., 45c.

Grand Rapids. A forcing variety of superior quality and beautiful appearance, strong grower, free from rot, and keeps crisp and tender without wilting when exposed for sale longer than any other forcing lettuce. It is also a desirable variety for sowing in open ground. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; oz., 15c; ¼ lb., 40c; lb., \$1.20.

Black Seeded Simpson.

It is much lighter colored than preceding; it grows nearly double in size; of fine quality. One of the best for forcing or outdoor planting. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 25c; lb., 90c.

Improved Hanson. For general use for market and gardeners we are sure that no variety can surpass our "IMPROVED HANSON" Lettuce. Deliciously sweet, crisp and tender, and



Grand Rapids Lettuce.

absolutely free from any rank or bitter taste. Resists the summer heat extremely well. It cannot be too highly praised. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 25c; 1 lb., 90c.

Salamander.

An excellent spring, summer and fall variety, forming good-sized heads. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; oz., 20c; ¼ lb., 50c.

Muskmelons

CULTURE: Select a light, rich, sandy soil, and after all danger of frost is over and the ground has become warm and dry plant in hills four to six feet apart each way, six to twelve seeds to a hill. When up and all danger of insects has passed pull out all but three plants. Cultivate until the vines cover the ground, and pinch the ends off the growing shoots to induce early fruiting. Ashes, lime, or even dry road dust is excellent to sift over young plants when the dew is on to prevent the attacks of insects. A few hills for early use may be had by sowing in hotbeds, on pieces of sod or in pots. The seed may also be started out-of-doors under hand frames or glasses. It is quite important that proper soil be selected for growing muskmelons.



Ratekin's Early Market.

Ratekin's Early Market.

Its beautiful shape and handsome appearance are remarked upon when placed side by side on the market bench or counter with any of the popular sorts of the day. It ripens only a few days after the early Hackensack, is more prolific, more uniform, bears longer and the fruit is more solid; seldom bursts at blossom end; flavor and quality are all that can be desired. It is green fleshed, with a small seed cavity. A valuable sort for general crop. PRICE: Pkt., 10c; oz., 20c; ¼ lb., 50c; lb., \$1.75.

Randolph Center, Vt

Gentlemen: We received the seed we ordered from you this morning, and they are sure fine. We are well pleased with them. Think them the best seed to be obtained anywhere. Will send you our order again when in need or want of anything in our line. Very truly, A. J. MARSH.

Muskmelons

The Burrell Gem Muskmelon.

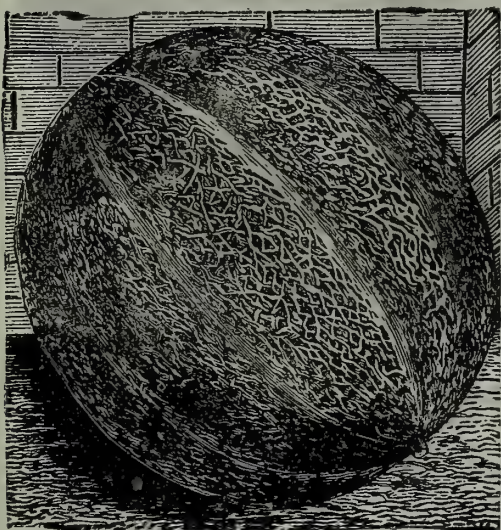
A Red-fleshed Rockyford. This new red-fleshed cantaloupe is ideal for either the home garden or for market. The rather elongated fruits average six inches in height, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches through and weighs about two pounds each. The flesh is red-orange, is very thick, fine grained and deliciously rich and spicy in flavor. **SEED CAVITY REMARKABLY SMALL**; the rind is thin, but tough. Color green, closely interlaced with gray netting; ribs well arched. The vines are healthy, vigorous and very productive. **PRICE:** Pkt., 10c; oz., 15c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., \$1.50.

Jenny Lind.

This is the earliest of the green fleshed sorts and one of the sweetest. It is round or flattened. In size it is small, being from three to five inches in diameter—a very convenient size for serving in halves. It is more largely grown in the great melon producing state of New Jersey than any other sort, and is used in enormous quantities in the eastern cities and at the seashore resorts. The vines are very prolific and the culture profitable. **PRICE:** Large pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 30c; lb., \$1.00, postpaid.

Paul Rose, or Petoskey.

Combines all the good qualities of the Netted Gem and Osage, the varieties from which it originated, possessing the sweetness of the latter, with the finely netted appearance of the Gem. Fruit oval, about five inches in diameter, shape and general appearance similar to the Netted Gem; of a light green or faint golden hue when fully ripe. Firm flesh, a rich orange like the Osage, but even sweeter and higher flavored; ripens close down to the rind, with small seed cavity; the most uniformly good of any muskmelon grown. Best shipper, just the size for hotel and table use. Really has no equal as a market melon for professional growers, and one of the very best sorts for the home garden. An exceptionally pure and fine stock. **PRICE:** Large pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 30c; lb., \$1.15, postpaid.

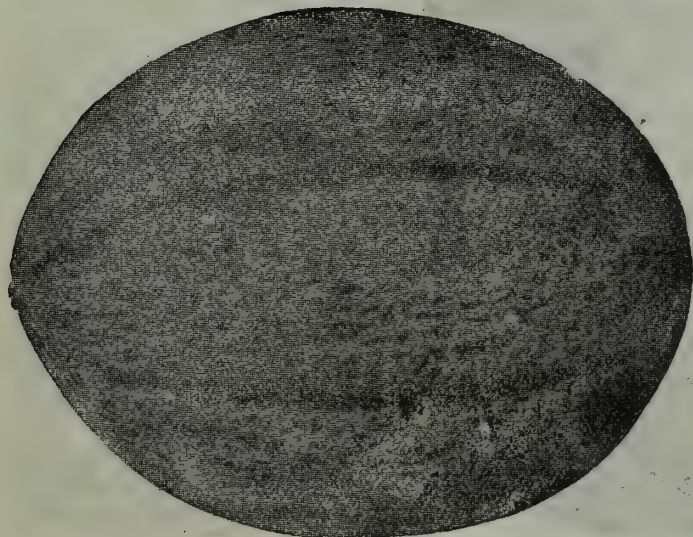


Paul Rose or Petoskey.

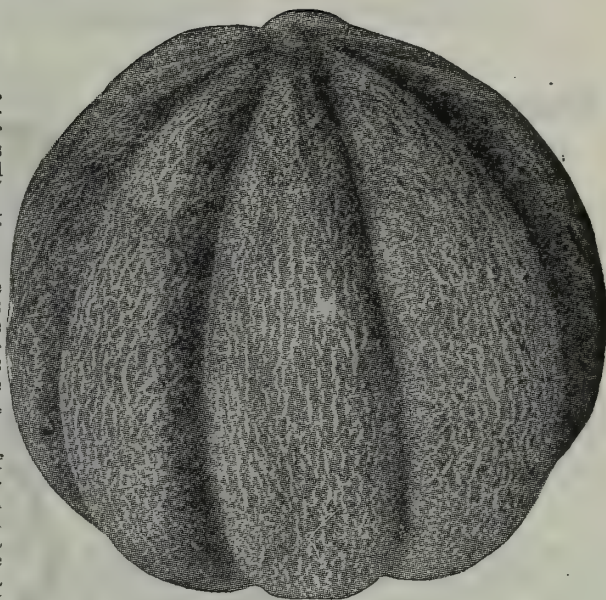
best type of the genuine Rocky Ford Muskmelon. It has been used in many sections and is pronounced by melon growers a very superior strain. **PRICE:** Pkt., 10c; oz., 15c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 40c; lb., \$1.25.

Emerald Gem.

One of the most delicious little melons that we have ever eaten. The flesh is thick, of a suffused salmon color, almost red, and ripens thoroughly to the extreme thin green rind. It is peculiarly crystalline in appearance, juicy and rich. The flavor is sweet and luscious beyond description. Rather small for marketing, but very nice for home use. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 30c; lb., 90c.



Emerald Gem.

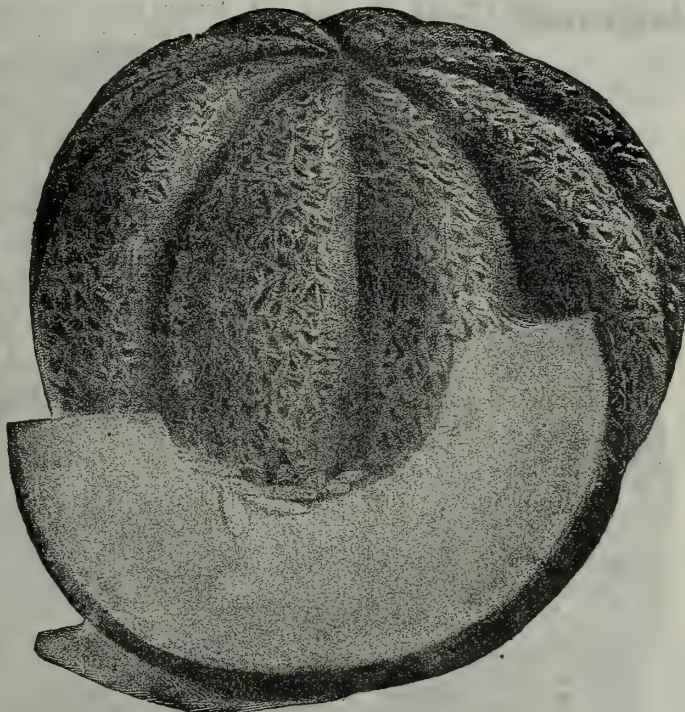


Burrell Gem.

A Red Fleshed Rocky Ford.

Rocky Ford Muskmelon.

Sweet and Luscious—World-Famous for its Captivating Flavor. ROCKY FORD has proven to be a most valuable muskmelon; its size, shape and quality exactly suit the epicure. It somewhat resembles the old Netted Gem, but is more oval in shape. The vines are exceedingly healthy and vigorous, bearing an enormous quantity of fruits during the entire season. It is safe to say that no melon has ever come into the market which has sold so readily and at such high prices as the Rocky Ford, often to the exclusion of other varieties. The color of the skin is of a rich, greenish-gold; the netting is prominent and light in color; appearance very attractive. The flesh is very deep, ripening clear to the rind; very solid, yet thoroughly melting, and it has an exceedingly small seed cavity. **IT IS VERY SWEET AND LUSCIOUS IN FLAVOR.** Our seed was specially grown for us by a careful grower at Rocky Ford, and is the



Ratekin's Rocky Ford.

Springfield, Ill., Oct. 1, 1912.

Gentlemen: Last spring I ordered an ounce of Burrell's Gem Melon seed from you and they came just fine. The melons were the best flavored I ever tasted and of good even size.

GLEN MACKEY.

Grand Rapids, Mich., Nov. 3, 1912.

Gentlemen: Your Burrell's Gem Muskmelon is certainly a dandy. From one packet of seed we have had all the melons we could eat for home use, and there are five of us in the family. They are the best melons I have ever tasted. Yours truly,

GEORGE BANNER.

Shenandoah, Sept. 25, 1912.

Gentlemen: Allow me to thank you for the melons you sent to my residence this morning. They were truly a surprise, and I had a feast on my arrival home. They were the most delicious, best flavored melons I have eaten this year, especially those marked "THE BURRELL'S GEM." Again thanking you I beg to remain, yours truly,

E. F. CLOVIS.

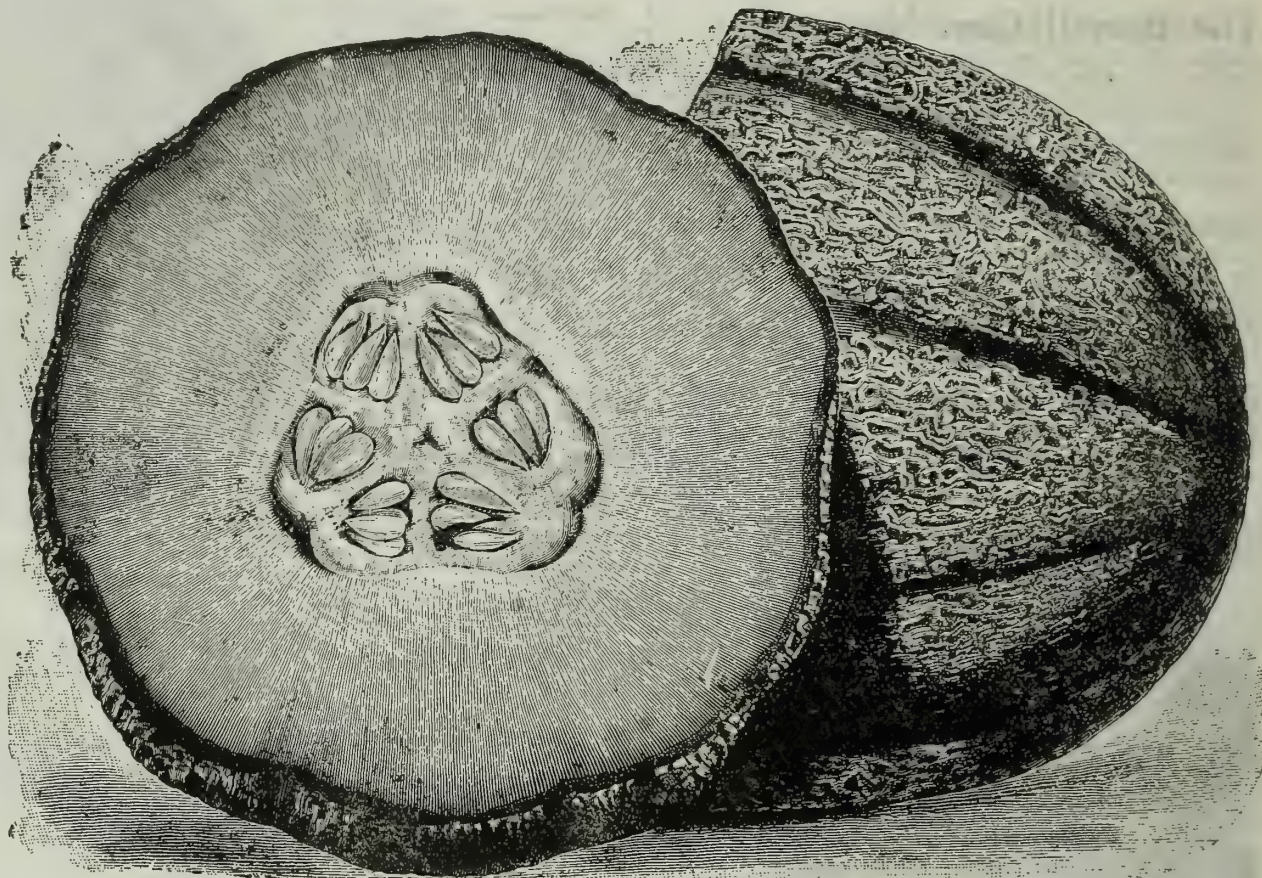
Muskmelons

Osage Melon or Miller's Cream.

One of the best melons on the market for family use, and also greatly liked by gardeners. The skin is thin, of dark green color and slightly netted. The flesh is salmon color, remarkably sweet and spicy in flavor, extremely thick and delicious to the rind. The seed cavity is very small. It is seldom that one of poor quality is found. The whole crop is very even and extra heavy, owing to the thickness of the meat. All lovers of fine melons should try the Osage. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 30c; lb., 90c.

Extra Early Hackensack.

We offer under this name a very distinct stock, different and much superior to that often sold as Extra Early Hackensack. The fruit is medium sized, nearly round, with deep ribs and very coarse netting. The flesh is green, a little coarse, but very



Osage Melon or Miller's Cream.

Improved Canteloupe.

A finely improved variety, often weighing from fifteen to twenty pounds. The flesh is thick, light in color and of fine quality. Quite early and a splendid keeper. Include this variety in your order.

PRICE: Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 30c; lb., 90c

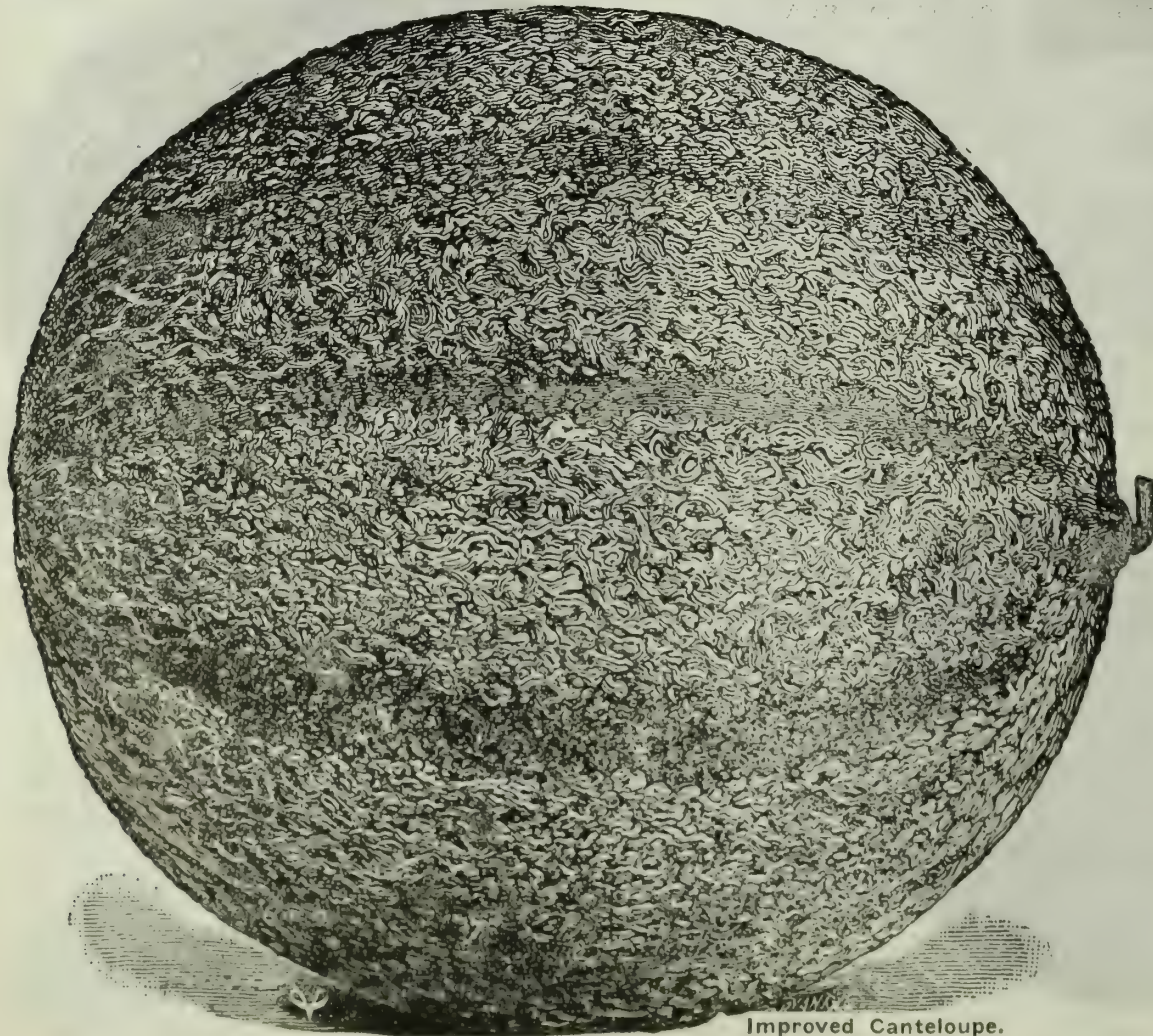
Small Green Nutmeg.

Fruit of medium size, slightly ribbed, globular. Skin dark green, becoming yellow when over-ripe and nearly covered with broad, shallow netting. Flesh thick, a little coarse, but of fine flavor. This variety is in universal demand for both home and market use. It is the size best suited for hotel and restaurant use. Our stock is carefully grown and selected and will be found first-class in every particular. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 30c; lb., \$1.00.

Gasport, Ind., Feb. 26, '12.

Gentlemen: It is a pleasure to say that anyone can be perfectly satisfied in sending their orders for seeds to the **RATEKIN SEED HOUSE**. We know seeds, like humans, are full of life. Some vigorous and some frail, but this depends upon the conditions and manner in which they are cultured. You have given careful study to the vitality and quality of your seeds. You have exercised extreme care in the selection of the seeds, especially the garden seeds you offer, and I believe you can supply a quality of seeds that cannot be excelled in freshness, sweetness or quality.

Yours truly,
Zoula Snodgrass.



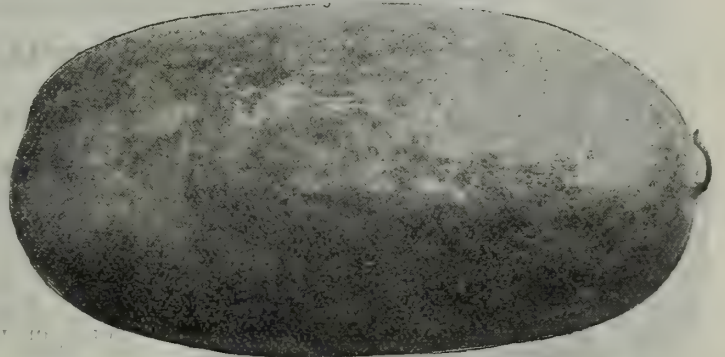
Improved Canteloupe.

Watermelons---The Best New Standard Varieties

ONE OUNCE FOR THIRTY HILLS; FOUR TO FIVE POUNDS FOR AN ACRE.

CULTURE: See directions given under Muskmelon. Watermelons, however, are slightly less subject to "bug" depredations and disease attacks than muskmelons. At the same time they are more easily hurt by strong spray mixtures, and caution in the use of such mixtures is advisable.

Tom Watson. The best shipping melon grown. A large, oblong melon, the skin of which is dark green, with thick netting on the entire surface. This melon is absolutely new and quite distinct from all other varieties. It averages 18 to 24 inches long and 10 to 12 inches in diameter, and weighs fifty to sixty pounds. The rind is thin but tough, and flesh a bright, attractive red color. **CRISP, SWEET AND DELICIOUS.** The heart is large, with no core. Seeds are brown, tipped with white. The appearance and quality of this melon makes it one of the very best of shipping varieties. Tom Watson will prove the most profitable of all melons to truckers and gardeners. Our seed stock was grown under contract by one of the very best melon growers in the country, he having obtained his seed direct from the originator in Georgia. **PRICE:** Pkt., 10c; oz., 20c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 40c; lb., \$1.50.



Tom Watson.

Ratekin's Champion. A cross between Kolb's Gem and Sweet Heart. All that could be said of KOLB'S GEM as to good shipping qualities can be truthfully stated in a higher degree of RATEKIN'S CHAMPION. All the praise of high quality bestowed on the Sweet Heart can be repeated of our new melon, but its prominent point of merit is its extreme size. **NO MELON EVER YET PRODUCED ANYTHING LIKE SO UNIFORMLY LARGE FRUIT, NOR APPROACHING IT IN PRODUCTIVENESS.** Melons weighing from forty to sixty pounds are frequent. It is the most prolific watermelon ever grown. Its color is a rich, dark green. Of uniform, symmetrical shape, roundish to bluntly oval, and this similarity of shape running through the whole field. **Price:** Pkt., 10c; oz., 15c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 35c; lb., \$1.25.



Ratekin's Champion.

Ratekin's New National Melon.

The reason that this fine new watermelon received the name of National was because of its proven ability to flourish almost anywhere, even in districts where watermelons are not usually grown. The National is a watermelon of medium to large size and of high table quality. It is of southern origin, but thrives well in the north. In shape it is oblong. The outside color is pale, with dark markings, resembling Seminole, but with markings more distinct. The flesh is brilliant red in color and remarkably solid—so solid, in fact, that a 40-pound National Watermelon does not appear to be much larger than a Seminole weighing only twenty-five pounds. The flavor is delicious, and the flesh is entirely stringless. The rind, though thin, is very tough, insuring good shipping qualities. **PRICE:** Pkt., 10c; oz., 15c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 30c; lb., \$1.10. Write for special prices on 4-lb. lots and over.

Sweet Heart Melon. This melon is early, large, handsome, heavy and productive. Shape is oval; color, mottled light to very dark green. Flesh bright red, solid, tender and very sweet. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 25c; lb., 75c.

M'Iver Wonderful Sugar. A large oblong

melon of handsome appearance; skin shows broad bands of white, with narrower ones of green. Its soft, pink flesh is crisp, juicy, very sweet and solid to the center. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 25c; lb., 75c.

Kleckley's Sweet.

Large oblong melon. The skin is dark green, flesh bright scarlet, the rind only about one-half inch in thickness. The scarlet flesh is sweet and sugary, and is of such texture that it leaves no strings of pulp whatever in eating. The melon is better for home use than for shipping, and we believe it is the **BEST TABLE MELON** for home consumption in the world. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 15c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 30c; lb., \$1.00; 5 lbs., by express, \$2.50.

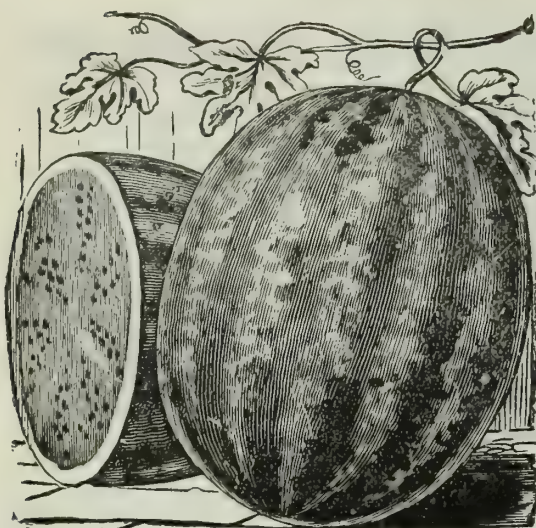
Grantsburg, Wis.

Gentlemen: I received your seeds in good condition and am well pleased with them. I can heartily recommend your firm to anyone in need or want of anything in your line. I have always been well pleased with seed you have sent me. Very truly,
P. HOFF.



It is early, has a remarkable thin, tough rind, and will keep and ship well. The flesh is bright scarlet and of fine quality. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 25c; lb., 75c.

Watermelons



Kolb's Gem.

Kolb's Gem. This variety, on account of its excellent shipping qualities, is extensively grown for that purpose. Grow nearly round, and the color is a dark green, with lighter narrow stripes; very thick and tough rind. Flesh light red and of good flavor. Our seed is choice. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 15c; ¼ lb., 30c; lb., 80c.

Mountain Sweet. The old standard. Best quality. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 25c; lb., 75c.

Phinney's Early. Early, medium size and quite productive. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 15c; ¼ lb., 40c; lb., \$1.00.

Peerless or Ice Cream. The great home market melon. The old stand-by is one of the best general croppers for the home market; has too thin a rind for shipping unless packed in straw. We have sold it for years to our most extensive Nishna Valley growers, for whom it brings the highest prices and meets with a ready sale, regardless of other varieties that may be on the market, because it has become a great favorite with market gardeners and melon dealers and consumers. Few, if any, surpass a True Ice Cream for quality and productiveness. Medium early; fruit oblong, large size; rind light mottled green; flesh bright scarlet, solid to the center, melting and delicious. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 25c; 1 lb., 75c; 3 lbs., \$2.00.

Triumph. A Southern variety which has become very popular with shippers. The fruit is uniformly large, nearly round, dark green, indistinctly striped with a lighter shade; rind thin and firm, making it an excellent shipper; flesh bright red and of good quality. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 20c; lb., 60c.

Seminole Watermelon. Very large, exceedingly productive, of the finest quality, and the beautiful red core makes it attractive. Sweet and very delicious. Beautiful shape for market. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 20c; lb., 60c; 3 lbs., \$1.65.

Monte Christo. In our trial grounds this has proven to be a northern strain of "Kleckley's Sweet" and is certainly very sweet and delicious melon. It is very large, dark green color outside, and has beautiful red core and is never stringy. It is a grand variety for both market and the family garden. **PRICE:** Postpaid, pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 25c; lb., 75c. Purchaser's expense: Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 20c; lb., 65c.

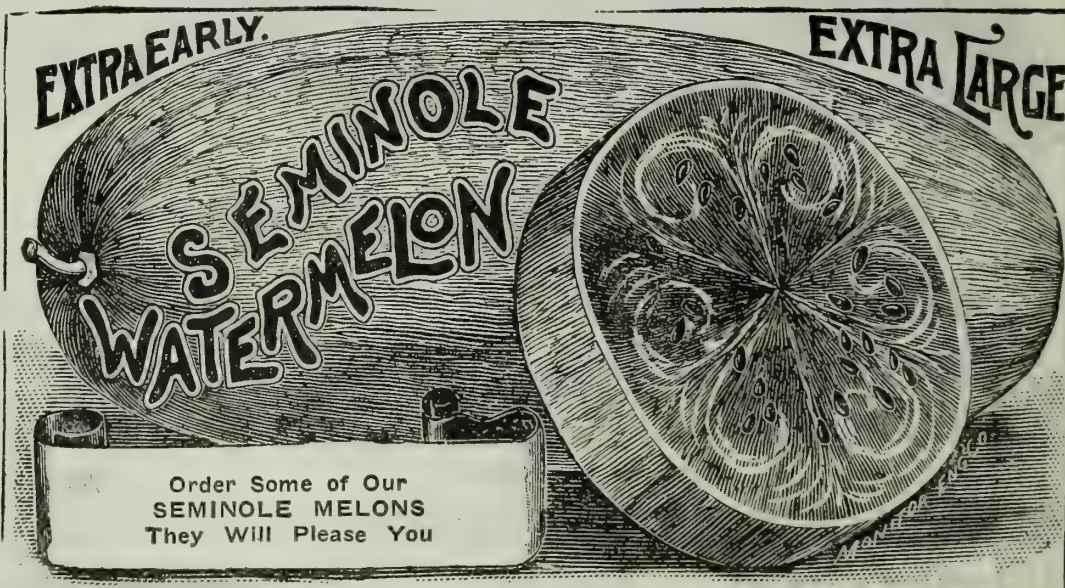
Special Offer. One packet each of any seven varieties of watermelons listed on this page for 25 cents, one ounce each, 50c, postpaid.

Cuban Queen. This is a large variety, often weighing eighty pounds and upwards; striped light and dark green; an enormous cropper. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 25c; lb., 75c.

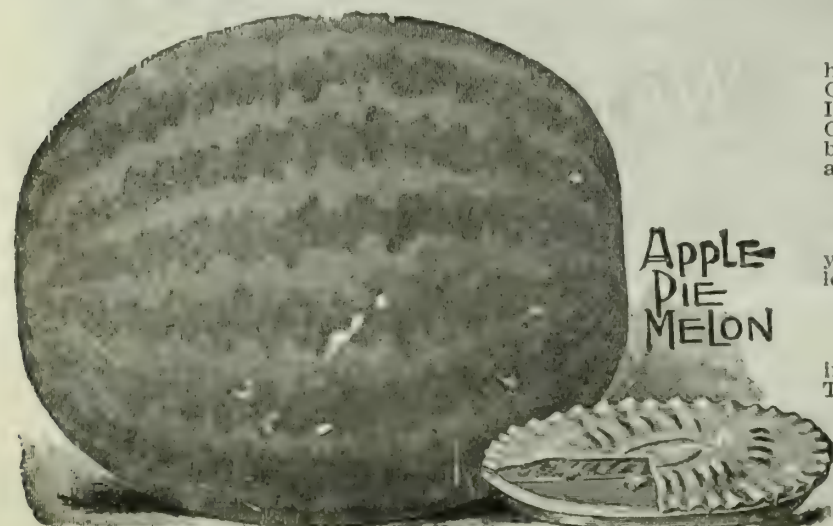
Black Diamond. One of the largest and best shippers produced. A quick seller and fine for home market and family gardens. It has a beautiful red core and is sweet and delicious. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 25c; lb., 75c.

Cole's Early. Decidedly the finest early variety for the private garden, but is too brittle for long shipments. It is very early and will mature further north than other sorts. Of medium size, very productive, continuing to bear throughout the season. Flesh of bright red color, of granulated, sparkling appearance. In flavor it is lusciously sweet and refreshing. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 25c; lb., 75c.

Apple Pie. Grows uniformly round and smooth, striped and marbled with light green. Flesh white and solid, seeds red. It should be borne in mind that this variety is not for eating in the raw state, but for preserves, pickles, etc. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; 2 oz., 15c; ¼ lb., 30c; lb., \$1.00.



Order Some of Our
SEMINOLE MELONS
They Will Please You

Apple
PIE
MELON

Chatham, Mich., March 20, 1912.

Dear sir: I am sending you a small order for seeds. I have been using your seeds for several years. The Early Champion Oats have never failed to give me a good crop. I have never seen such clean grass, clover and oats. Your Giant Fodder Corn I got from you last year could not be beat. I will send you my order for fall seasonable seeds, and will be pleased to have your best prices on same.

Very truly, A. J. CHARTIER.

Perham, Maine.

Gentlemen: I have received the seeds I ordered from you and they are fine. I am well pleased with them. Will let you know next fall just what the yield is.

Very truly, N. BONDERSOHN.

Phoenix, N. Y.

Dear sir: Just received the seeds I ordered from you and in good condition. They were fine and just what I ordered. Thanks for prompt attention.

S. COOK.

Edwardsville, Kans.

Dear Sir: I have received the seeds I ordered from you today and I want to tell you that I am highly pleased with them. I can highly recommend your seeds to any who are in need or want of anything in your line. Very truly,
J. D. VALENTINE.

Watermelons

Mixed Watermelons.

Twelve varieties of the finest watermelons, the largest, earliest, sweetest; grown separately and seed carefully mixed by us. Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 25c; lb., 75c.

Dark Icing or Green Mountain.

¼ lb., 25c; lb., 75c.

Fruit round and of medium size; rind dark green, thin, but very strong; flesh deep scarlet; rich, juicy and delicious. PRICE: Packet, 5c; oz., 10c;

Light Icing.

Similar to the preceding, but light variety. PRICE : Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 25c; lb., 75c.

Pride of Georgia.

A much better table variety than the "Kolb's Gem," though not so good a shipper, owing to the exceeding thinness and tenderness of the rind. In form the melons are an oblong oval, bearing indentations somewhat like the muskmelon. The vines are exceedingly prolific. PRICE: Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 25c; lb., 75c.

Gipsy or Georgia Rattlesnake.

A superior early market variety; large, oblong, the skin green, mottled and striped. PRICE: Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 25c; lb., 75c.

Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 1, 1912.

Gentlemen: Kindly quote me your best prices on forty pounds Tom Watson melon. I used your melon seed last year and had splendid success. Yours truly,

C. B. CARRUTHERS.

Springfield, Ohio, Sept. 5, 1912.

Gentlemen: Your Tom Watson is one of the best melons I have ever grown. I ordered one pound of seed from you last year and had the very best of success.

Yours truly, W. W. THOMPSON.

Niangua, Mo.

Gentlemen: I received the seeds all O. K. Many thanks for the seed you sent in correction of my order, and for the prompt and satisfactory settlement of the mistake.

Yours truly, G. R. MORRIS.

McFall, Mo.

Gentlemen: I have received my seeds ordered from you and am well pleased with them. I expected them to come by mail, but they came by express. Many thanks for your kindness. Very truly,

W. DANIEL.

Quincy, Ill., May 10th, 1912.

Gentlemen: The melon seeds arrived today and are fine. Thanks for your promptness and also for the extras.

Yours truly, R. E. WALKER.

Keemer, Mo.

Dear sir: Received the seeds I ordered from you and they were sure fine. Thank you very much for the prompt attention you gave my order. Very respectfully,

A. B. LANGDON.

Fairport, Iowa.

Dear sir: I received my seeds that were delayed in transit today, and they were fine. I want to thank you for your kindness in tracing them and getting them to me as soon as possible. Yours truly,

CHAS. ROEHLK.

Kirkland, Illinois.

Gentlemen: I received the seeds I ordered from you, although they were somewhat delayed in transit. They were simply fine. I have never seen better seeds.

Very truly, C. J. KOCH.

Ratekin's Reliable Onion Seed

First Quality Onion Seed—Our Great Specialty.

WE WOULD LIKE TO SELL YOU YOUR ONION SEED.

There is no crop that depends more upon the quality of the seed than does the Onion crop. Good ONION SEED is of the most vital importance if you expect satisfactory results. The seed we offer we know is not surpassed anywhere, and is always thoroughly tested for vitality before it is sent to customers, so that success is certain where soil and season are favorable and is equally sure to produce an abundance of well-shaped Onions, free from scullions or stiff-necks. Our one aim has always been, and is, to sell at reasonable prices, and as low as any reliable firm in the American seed trade who have an honest reputation for offering only strictly first-class onion seed to their customers.

CULTURE: Onions do best on a rich loam, previously cultivated for two years. Stiff clay and light sand are equally unfavorable. The land should be highly fertilized with well rotted manure, complete fertilizers, etc. Fresh stable manure has a tendency to produce soft onions. Drill in four to five pounds of seed per acre, one-half inch deep. If sets are wanted use sixty to eighty pounds of seed per acre. Six to ten bushels of sets will plant an acre. Fine, marketable size onions (according to variety planted) are easily produced the first year from early spring sown seed. Culture should be frequent though shallow. The same ground may be used for onions season after season, if well fertilized annually. Bone meal is an excellent fertilizer. Winter storage demands dryness and protection from sudden changes. Onions should never be handled while frozen.

The variety of onions to grow depends largely upon what variety your market demands. There is a great difference in markets. In the southern markets about the best selling onion is the Red Globe, of which my Ratekin's Red Globe is the very best possible strain. Red Wethersfield, Prizetaker, Ratekin's White Globe, Ratekin's Yellow Globe and Silver Skin are also in great demand throughout the south and always find a ready market at the top prices. Other localities take different varieties. All the onions I list have their good qualities and will prove profitable for you and I have given careful attention in writing the descriptions to bring forth the respective merits of each variety. I grow onion seed for some of the largest and most critical market gardeners and take the very best of care with all my seed stock, overseeing personally that it comes true to name and is of strong vitality. I have large quantities of the very best and purest strains and can save you money. Don't fool with store seeds. You are taking too big a chance. nearly always be assured of a good crop.



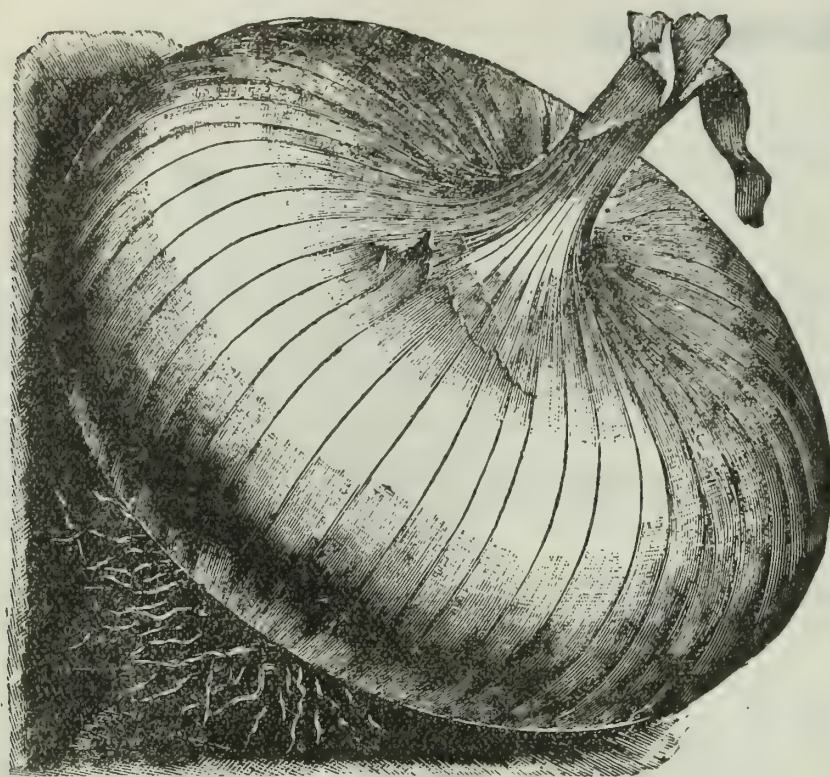
Ailsa Craig.

Be sure that you have good fresh seed and you can

The Ailsa Craig.

A very large, yellow fleshed variety of onion that is very popular with English gardeners. It resembles the "Prizetaker," but will grow much larger and more globular in form. The skin has an attractive straw color, flesh is mild, and the onions keep remarkably well for such large size. It will prove valuable to those who grow onions for exhibition purposes, as it is the most showy and attractive onion that can be grown. It is also valuable to truckers who grow for a critical market, and one of the best for the home garden. For producing the largest and best onions, it is best to sow seed in the hotbed early in the spring and transplant when weather conditions will permit. Per packet, 10c; oz., 30c; ¼ lb., \$1.00; lb., \$3.00.

Onions



Mammoth Silver King.

Mammoth Silver King. Attractive form, flattened, but thick through. Single bulbs, often attain weights of from 2¼ to 4 pounds each. The skin and flesh are white and of a particularly mild and pleasant flavor; matures early and is of uniformly large size and perfect form, and will bring a large price in market. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 15c; ¼ lb., 50c; lb., \$1.75.

Yellow Globe Danvers. A very handsome round or globe shape variety of large size, with thin, yellow skin, white flesh, fine grained, mild, very firm, and the best of keepers. It ripens early, sells readily at the highest prices in our markets. This is one of the best cropping varieties in existence; has yielded 1,000 bushels per acre; one of our customers states that his crop averaged over 800 bushels per acre for nine years. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 15c; ¼ lb., 40c; lb., \$1.40; 4 lbs., not prepaid, \$5.00.

Australian Brown Onion. Extra early, long keeping; the most valuable variety introduced in a generation. The Australian Brown Onion is of medium size, wonderfully hard and solid, and most attractive for market, both as to form and appearance. They are extremely early in ripening and never make stiff-necks or scullions. From its firmness and hardness it will keep in good condition longer than any other onion known. The color of the skin is clear amber-brown. So widely contrasted from any other onion is this color that it will be noticed on market, and when once bought purchasers will most likely call again for those "beautiful brown onions." **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 15c; ¼ lb., 50c; lb., \$1.50.

White Bermuda. A favorite in the south. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 25c; ¼ lb., 80c; lb., \$2.75.

New White Queen. Small; noted for extreme earliness and mildness of flavor; much used for pickling. Large pkt., 5c; oz., 20c; ¼ lb., 50c; lb., \$2.00.

Extra Early Bartletta. This is a new distinct variety; the very earliest onion in cultivation. It is fully two weeks earlier than the Early White Queen which heretofore has been the earliest variety on the market. They are pure paper white color, very mild and delicate in flavor, 1½ inches in diameter and ¾ of an inch in thickness. For table use and pickling it is most valuable. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 20c; ¼ lb., 65c; lb., \$2.00.

Chives. Perfectly hardy little perennials of the onion tribe, and are grown for their tops, which are used wherever the flavor of onion is required. Plant in small clumps in garden; they will grow readily. The tops appear very early in spring and can be shorn throughout the season; indispensable for use in omelets. **PRICE:** Roots, per bunch, 15c; three for 35c; doz., \$1.00.

Colorado Springs, Colo., Feb. 14, 1912.

Dear Sir: I must say that your seeds last year which I ordered and received were the finest I have ever received. I am sending you an order for some other seeds in this letter. Yours truly,

MISS F. PIPER.

Roby, Texas, March 20, '12.

Dear Sir: The seeds I ordered from you have been received, and they are entirely satisfactory. Thanks for prompt attention. Yours truly,

J. T. LEWIS.

Sparkville, Ind., Feb. 29, 1912. Dear Sir: The seeds arrived all right and just as I ordered. I am well pleased with them. The seeds I got from you last spring did well, although we had a dry summer to contend with. Thanks for prompt attention. Yours truly,

DICK NOWLAND.

Grundy Center, Iowa, Feb. 23, 1912. Gentlemen: I received your seeds and was well pleased with them. They were simply fine. Thanks for prompt attention. Yours,

F. CLARK.

Plymouth, Ind., April 3, 1912. Dear Sirs: The seeds I ordered from you have arrived and in perfect condition. They are first-class. The Blue Rose also received. Very truly,

JOHN SIFERT.

Derma, Miss., May 6, 1912. Gentlemen: I have received the seeds I ordered from you in good condition. The millet and garden seed are the very best that could be obtained anywhere. Very truly,

S. B. BARKER.

Wax Pool, Va., May 5, 1912. Gentlemen: My order for seeds received in due time. The seeds were fine. Allow me to thank you for the promptness given to my order. Very truly yours,

J. W. POWER.



For general purposes, the country over, no variety is more largely grown. The largest, most uniform, heaviest yielder and the best keeping of all the red onions. This is a standard red variety. Large size; skin deep purplish red; form round, somewhat flattened; flesh purplish-white. We recommend it as a general cropper and a variety that will do well anywhere that large onions can be grown. One of the best keepers. Yields enormous crops. Our stock of Large Red Wethersfield Onion Seed is personally selected by us and excelled by none. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 15c; ¼ lb., 35c; lb., \$1.15.

Onions



The Mammoth Prize Taker.

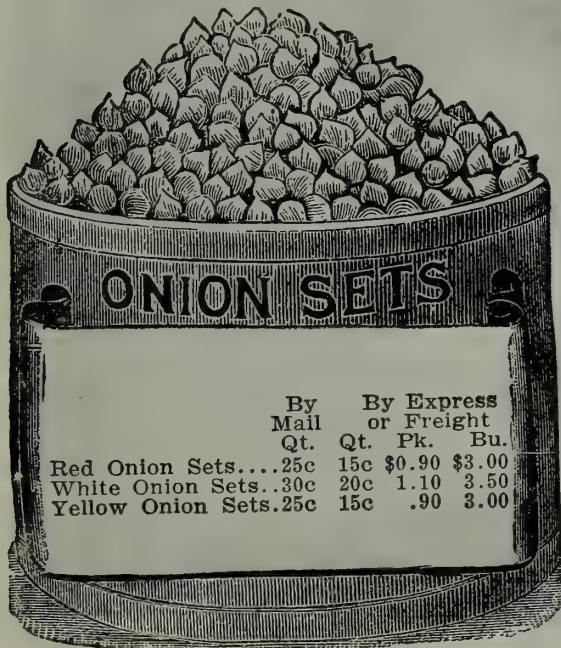
Ratekin's Superb Globe Onions

See full color illustrations on outside back cover page.

Ratekin's Red Globe. My strain of this onion is of the very best. Globe Onions are the most popular varieties grown, and the Red Globe is planted heavier than any other variety. In the East this onion is called the southport Red Globe, and in other sections it is sold under different names, such as Ohio Red Globe, Minnesota Globe and Globe Red Wethersfield. I have bred up a variety superior to any other of the above named sorts, and to distinguish it from ordinary strains have named it Ratekin's Red Globe. It is a perfect globe, skin being of a rich, glossy red, flesh fine grained, and always mild and pleasant. Like my other globe varieties it is very hardy and a splendid keeper, and always commands top prices on the market. You make no mistake in planting this variety. **PRICE:** Pkt., 10c; oz., 25c; ¼ lb., 60c; lb., \$1.75.

Ratekin's White Globe. On account of its handsome appearance this onion always brings top prices on all markets. It is silvery white in color, globe shape in form, flesh of delicious flavor and a fine keeper. This onion is a very heavy yielder, but a very shy seeder, and therefore the seed is always high-priced. **PRICE:** Pkt., 10c; oz., 25c; ¼ lb., 60c; lb., \$2.25.

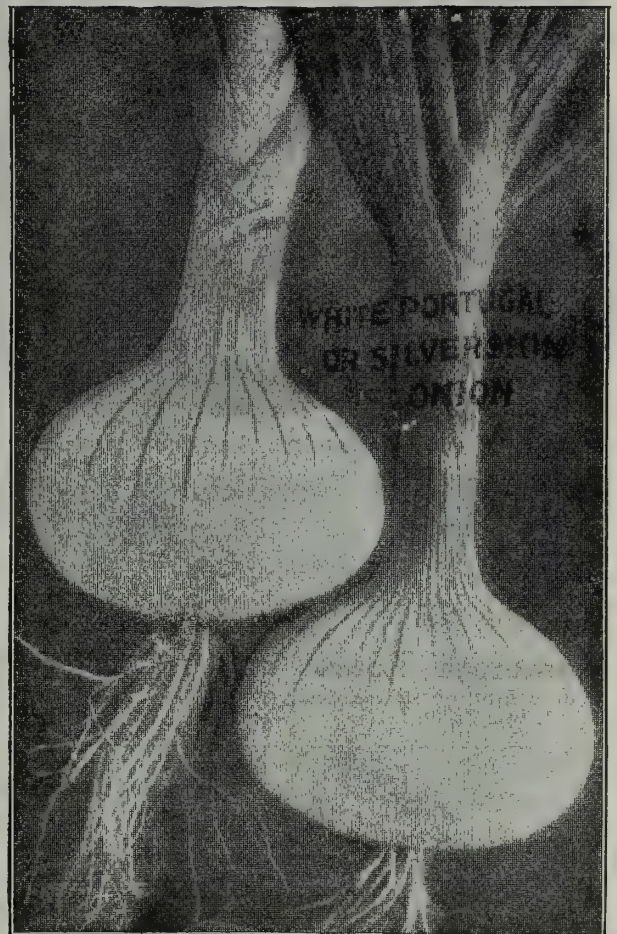
Ratekin's Yellow Globe. This is one of the same general character as the two varieties described above, except that the skin is of a rich yellow color; flesh pure white and of a mild and delicious flavor. These three varieties of globe onions I have bred up for years, so I am sure that any of my friends who entrust their orders with me will be highly pleased with the results they obtain from their crop. All of my Globe Onions ripen evenly, are wonderful keepers and on this account should be planted more extensively. **PRICE:** Pkt., 10c; oz., 25c; ¼ lb., 50c; lb., \$1.75.



Mammoth Prize Taker. This is the large, beautiful Spanish variety, sold in the fruit stores and markets of all large cities. Enormous size, 14 to 16 inches in circumference. Outside skin is rich yellow, while the flesh is white, sweet and tender. They bottom well, are free from stiffnecks, and have produced more bushels of marketable onions to the acre than any other variety in America. In market they attract attention, sell readily at advanced prices. True American grown seed. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 15c; ¼ lb., 50c; lb., \$1.50.

White Portugal or Silver Skin Onion.

The leading White Flat Onion. For the family garden it is one of the best. The bulbs attain a good size, ripening evenly; the color is a beautiful silvery-white when cured under cover. Its shape is flat, but symmetrical. For a white variety it is not only early, but a good keeper. For slicing and boiling it is one of the best, the flesh being mild and tender. It is largely grown for pickles when sown three or four times as thick as usual, and is also extensively sown for sets. (See cut). **PRICE:** Pkt., 10c; oz., 25c; ¼ lb., 60c; lb., \$2.00.



Onion Sets

The planting of onion sets is increasing rapidly year after year. They are used for several purposes. The bottom onion sets produce a large onion ready for market from four to six weeks earlier than can be had by sowing the seed, and the product of the set is the same as that obtained by sowing seed. This enables the grower to sell his entire crop earlier in the season, at which time prices usually are higher than when the bulk of the crop reaches market. It also permits the sowing of another crop on the land the same year. Bottom sets also produce good green onions on most any soil in half the time it takes to raise them from seed.

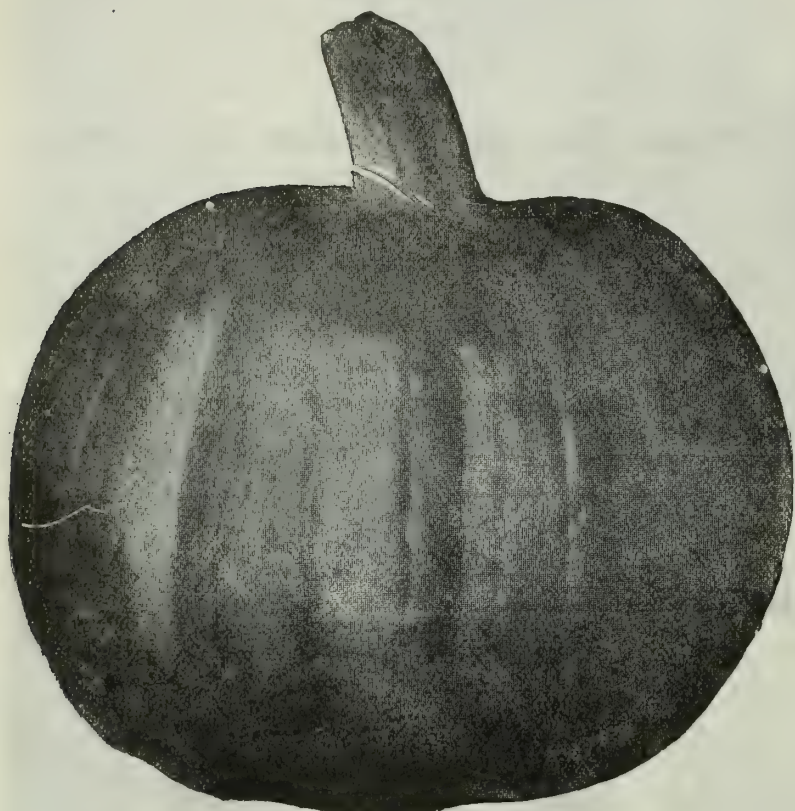
Bottom onion sets are produced by sowing seed very thickly, and they are harvested before they have reached full development. Our sets are small, one inch or less in diameter, dry and unspouted.

We grow our own onion sets, which enables us to produce hard, sound, clean sets of the best quality. As they are used to obtain onions earlier than they can be had from seed it follows, therefore, that northern grown sets will produce onions earlier than southern grown sets. We clean them thoroughly, so as to be free from trash and rubbish, which is so often included with many of the onion sets ordinarily sold. In the spring of the year our sets are hard and sound, while at that time southern sets are very often so dried and shriveled and so lifeless that they either grow slowly or fail entirely to make a bulb. We do not think it too much to say that a bushel of our sets will give almost twice the number of onions as will a bushel of ordinary sets.

ABOUT PRICES: As the value of onion sets fluctuates greatly our prices are subject to market changes. The prices named in this catalogue are based upon values existing at the time of publication, January 1st. If you wish to purchase round lots be sure to write us for lowest market values.

Pumpkin

ONE OUNCE WILL PLANT TWENTY-FIVE HILLS. FOUR POUNDS WILL PLANT ONE ACRE.



Ratekin's Mammoth Prize.

Pumpkins are not so particular in regard to soil as melons or cucumbers, but in other respects are cultivated the same, though on a larger scale. They are generally raised between hills of corn, but may be planted with success in fields by themselves.

Pumpkins are sold in the markets in large quantities every fall and are considered a very profitable crop. They are also valuable for feeding to stock.

Include a few pounds in your order. Planted with corn two pounds will plant one acre.

Ratekin's Mammoth Prize. (Sold only in sealed packages). The largest pumpkin grown. **HAS WEIGHED AS HIGH AS 225 POUNDS.** A prize winner. The flesh is fine grained and the quality is excellent. The flesh and skin are of bright golden yellow color. Notwithstanding its large size it is a fine variety for pies and is a splendid keeper. If you wish to see just how large a pumpkin you can grow try this variety. **PRICE:** Packet, 10c; oz., 20c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 50c; lb., \$1.60.

Japanese Pie. A crook neck variety. Early. Seeds are marked very curiously. Flesh deep yellow; of fine quality. Keeps well. **PRICE:** Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 30c; 1 lb., 95c.

Early Sugar or Pie. Small, round, flat, deep orange yellow. Flesh fine grained, sweet and of the finest quality. A good keeper. One of the best for pies. **PRICE:** Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 25c; 1 lb., 75c.

Sweet or Sugar. Fruit small and round. A very prolific variety and superior for pies and table use. The skin is deep orange yellow; an excellent keeper. **PRICE:** Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 20c; lb., 60c.

Connecticut Field. The common field or cow pumpkin. If you have any live stock to feed it will pay you to put in a few acres of these. **PRICE:** Oz., 5c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 10c; lb., by mail, 35c. By express or freight: 10 lbs., \$1.75; bu. of 25 lbs., \$3.00.

Large Cheese Pumpkin. Large, round, flattened fruits, with creamy buff skin. It is an excellent keeping variety; with thick flesh of excellent fine quality. Commonly called sweet pumpkin throughout the west. **PRICE:** Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 20c; lb., 50c.

Yankee Pie. This is the noted New England Pie or Small Sugar Pumpkin. Same shape and color as the "Connecticut Field," but smaller, very sweet, fine grained and one of the best varieties for table use. We have sold this to thousands of customers in all parts of the country, and it pleases everyone for making pies. Early and very productive. **PRICE:** Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 20c; lb., 60c.

Mammoth Tours. Also called "Mammoth Whale." Originated near Tours, France, where it is largely grown, both for feeding cattle and table use. Grows to an immense size, sometimes three feet in length, and to a weight of 100 to 200 pounds. Flesh of salmon color. Seed of a peculiar shape. **PRICE:** Packet, 10c; oz., 15c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 40c; 1 lb., \$1.40.

Dear sir: I have received the seeds I ordered from you today, and in good condition. I am well pleased with them and when in need of anything in your line, I shall send you my order. Respectfully,

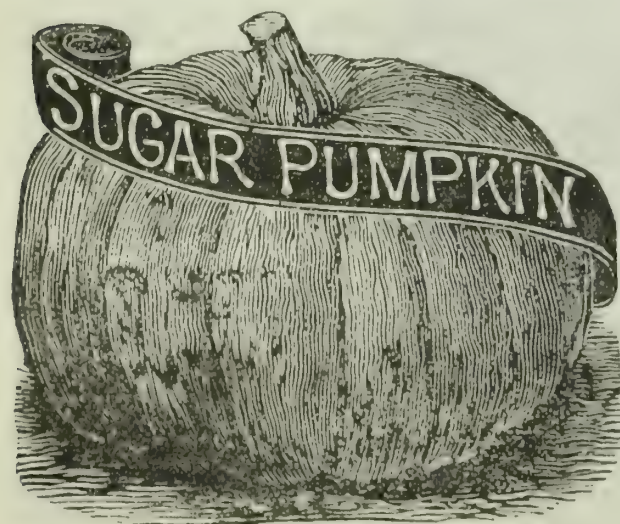
Advance, Arkansas.

W. C. BELEHER.

Gentlemen: I received the oats, speltz and flax seed I ordered from you and have them in the ground, and they are doing fine. I will report to you my success this fall.

Parkers Lodge, Pa.

Truly yours,
L. W. SEIGWORTH.



Dear sir: I have just received the seeds that I ordered from you and I want to tell you just how well pleased with them I was. I think them the best seed I have ever seen. Very truly,
A. C. DEINER.

Valley, Idaho.
Gentlemen: I received my seeds yesterday and I am well pleased with them. When in need of any other seeds I will send you my order, for I know I will always obtain the very best grade and quality of seeds.
Yours truly,
J. S. WILSON.



Mammoth Tours.

Okra or Gumbo

In high esteem for soups and stews. A fashionable southern vegetable of easy growth at the north. An annual. The pods are used when young and tender.

CULTURE: Sow in May or June, after the ground is warm, in drills, three feet apart and thin to ten inches apart in the rows. An ounce of seed to 100 feet of row.

Ratekin's Improved Giant Green Pod.

A new Okra esteemed by canners and market gardeners. It is a great improvement on the old green podded sorts. Large, handsome, green pods. Fine quality, very productive, four to five feet tall. **PRICE:** Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 20c; lb., 75c.

Peppers

One Ounce Will Produce About 1,800 Plants.

The culture of Pepper is the same as for Egg Plant; the plants need quite as much heat to perfect them, though they mature sooner and may be sown a little later. Guano, hen dung, or any other bird manure, hoed into the surface soil when the plants are about six inches high, will wonderfully increase the product and also improve the quality of the fruit.

Mammoth Ruby King Pepper.

One of the most popular large fruiting varieties, a prolific bearer of extra large ruby red fruits, five to six inches long by three to four inches in diameter; flesh exceedingly thick, sweet and so mild that it is often eaten sliced as salad, splendid for stuffing, etc. It is a very attractive variety and a valuable acquisition. Our strain selected and is absolutely pure.

Per packet, 10c; oz., 30c; ¼ lb., 80c; lb., \$2.75.

Sweet Mountain.

Plants very productive, growing upright, with moderately large leaves. Fruit very large, long, often eight inches or more in length by two in diameter, very smooth and handsome, being when unripe, of a bright deep green color, entirely free from any purple tinge, and when matured of a rich red. Flesh very thick, sweet and mild flavored. Well suited to use as a stuffed pickle. **PRICE:** Packet, 5c; oz., 20c; ¼ lb., 60c.

Large Bell or Bull Nose.

Our stock of this well known variety, which is sometimes called Sweet Mountain, is a great improvement on the best stock obtainable on a few years ago. Plant, vigorous, compact, very productive, ripening its crop uniformly and early. It is one of the most popular and desirable sorts. Fruit large, cylindrical, with thick, mild flesh; quality for use in salads and pickles, color bright red when ripe. Packet, 5c; oz., 15c; ¼ lb., 50c.

Chinese Giant.

PRICE: Per packet, 10c; oz., 50c; ¼ lb., \$1.50.

Red Cayenne.

PRICE: Per packet, 5c; oz., 25c; ¼ lb., 90c.

Coral Gem Bouquet.

PRICE: Packet, 10c; oz., 50c.

Red Chili.

PRICE: Packet, 5c; oz., 20c; ¼ lb., 60c.



Mammoth Ruby King Pepper.

Parsley

Sow in March, thinly in drills one foot apart and one-half inch deep. Soak seed in warm water a few hours before sowing. For winter use protect in a glass frame or light cellar. Very useful for flavoring soups and stews and for garnishing. The green leaves are used for flavoring, or they may be dried crisp, rubbed to a powder and kept in bottles until needed.

Hamburg.

A turnip rooted variety, used for flavoring soups, etc. **PRICE:** Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 20c; lb., 65c.

Ratekin's Moss Curled Parsley.

A handsome variety of quick, robust growth, forming compact, ornamental plants, densely furnished with strong stemmed graceful leaves, finely cut, most beautifully curled, and of that brilliant emerald green color so highly attractive when used for garnishing. The flavor of the leaves is also unusually rich and aromatic, rendering this variety of special value where used for flavoring in sauces, dressing, etc., either when fresh or dried. Packet, 10c; oz., 15c; ¼ lb., 30c; lb., \$1.00.



Ratekin's Moss Curled.

Improved Ground Pea or Peanut

Peanuts can be grown anywhere and everyone should plant them for themselves and children.

Red Cross.

This very desirable variety is as early as the earliest, the most hardy, very prolific and of the best quality. Boys, here is a chance for you. Think of growing peanuts in your own garden and have plenty of them to eat. Shell the nuts carefully so as not to break the inside skin, and plant as soon as the ground becomes warm, from two to three feet apart each way, four or five to the hill, covering two inches. The soil should be deep and mellow. They produce twenty-five to seventy bushels per acre and are as easily cultivated as corn. **PRICE:** Large package, 10c; lb., 40c. By express: 5 lbs. or more, 25c per lb.

Spanish.

A very early variety, but the pods are small. **PRICE:** Package, 10c; lb., 50c.

Sweet Peas.

While you are ordering peas for the vegetable garden don't forget the beautiful Sweet Peas. We have something to say along this line that will certainly interest you.



Improved or Table Geurnsey.

Parsnips

ONE OUNCE WILL SOW
200 FEET OF DRILL
FIVE POUNDS TO
AN ACRE.

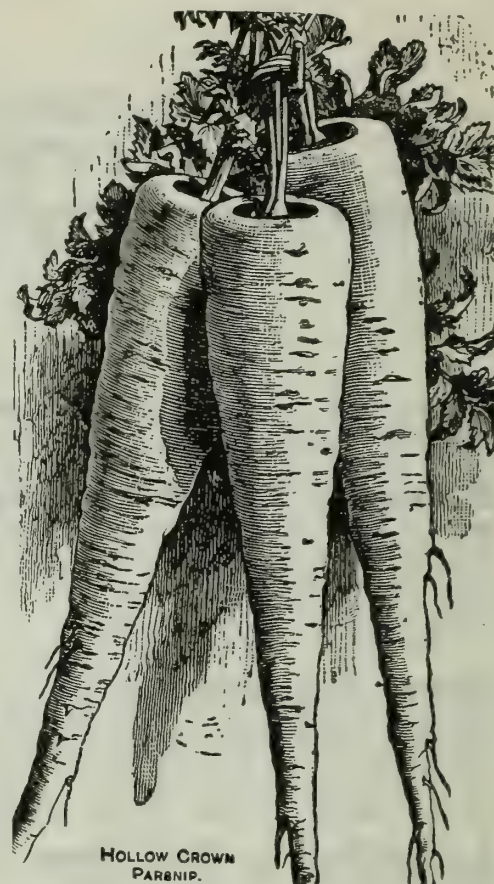
Sow early in spring in good rich soil, which has been plowed deep, in drills fifteen inches apart, covering half an inch. Thin to five or six inches apart in rows. They are improved by frost.

Ratekin's Improved Hollow Crown.

This is a highly improved type, producing uniformly large and handsome roots of stocky form, heavy at the shoulder, well rounded, gradually tapering to the base, so that they are easily dug, and if grown in properly pulverized soil, the roots will be smooth and free from wrinkles and side roots. The flesh is white, of fine texture, free from core and stringiness, and especially fine flavored, cooking tender, sweet and rich, rendering it one of the finest of table vegetables for winter use. The roots may remain in the ground all winter, being hardy, or some may be dug late in the fall and stored in sand or soil, so that they can be gotten at easily when the ground is frozen. Frost improves their quality. This parsnip is the heaviest cropper of all and we recommend it for both garden and field culture. Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 25c; lb., 65c.

Improved or Table Guernsey.

A greatly improved and wonderfully fine strain of the Guernsey Hollow Crown Parsnip. The roots do not grow as long as the Hollow Crown, but are of greater diameter and more easily gathered. A very heavy cropper; the roots are smooth, with a deep hollow crown and a small top. The flesh is fine grained and sweet and of excellent quality; cooks evenly all the way through to the center, which is fine, soft and even quality as outside portions. PRICE: Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 25c; lb., 65c.

HOLLOW CROWN
PARSNIP.

Garden Peas

One Quart Will Plant About 100 Feet of Drill. One and One-half to Two Bushels for An Acre.

CULTURE: Peas of extra early, smooth class are the very first thing to be planted in the garden in spring. The wrinkled sorts follow a little later, as they are not quite so hardy. Tall late varieties need brush or other support. By selecting sorts that do not grow much over four feet high, the necessity of providing brush may be avoided. Judicious selection of varieties and planting frequently for succession will give us a full supply of the choicest green peas almost during the entire season, with the possible exception of the hottest part of the summer. Open furrows three or four inches deep and three feet apart; scatter the seed peas into them and cover with hoe or plow. Cultivate like corn or beans. The late tall sorts may be planted in double rows and brush stuck in between for support. All garden peas, however, require good, strong and fertile land. Heavy yields cannot be obtained on poor soil.

NOTE: While our supply of peas is limited, owing to unfavorable growing conditions, yet we can supply the very best of quality. Owing to crop shortage, we are unable to quote prices on bushel lots in this catalog, consequently we would advise that all of our customers who intend planting quantities write us for lowest quotations before placing their orders.

Prices on packets, pints and quarts are postpaid. If ordered by freight or express, at sender's expense, deduct 7c per pint, 15c per quart, from prices given.

Ratekin's New Wonder.

A round seeded hard shelled pea that can be sown when frost is barely out of the ground, before it is safe to sow wrinkled sorts. This, with its quickness of growth and maturity, renders it the earliest pea on record.

Ratekin's New Wonder is unequalled for general excellence, size of pod and regularity of ripening. It grows 2½ feet high and produces pods of good size, which are well filled with round smooth peas of splendid flavor. It is a very heavy yielder and in this last feature, with its extreme earliness, lies its great value to market gardeners and truckers. At the same time it is one of the best for private garden. Packet, 10c; $\frac{1}{2}$ pint, 20c; quart, 50c; by express, peck, \$2.25.



Ratekin's New Wonder.

Salem, Ky
Gentlemen: I have ordered and received seeds from you for the past few years, and they have always proved satisfactory. I am sending you my order again for seeds, and am sure I will receive first-class seeds.
Very truly,

E. CHAMPION.

Cavendish, Vt.
Gentlemen: The seeds I ordered and received from you for the past seasons have proved highly satisfactory and I can highly recommend your seeds to anyone who is in need or want of seeds of any sort. Very truly,
R. LINK.

Peas

Alaska. Height two feet, pods rather small, dark green color, well filled, the earliest pea known, being two days earlier than the Rural New Yorker, and 70 per cent of the pods can be gathered at the first picking. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; ½ pt., 20c; qt., 50c. By express: Half pk., \$1.25.

American Wonder. The most popular extra-early variety for the family garden; being very sweet, it cannot be planted quite as early as the above, as it will not stand as much cold, wet weather, but is far superior to the extra early smooth sorts in flavor and table qualities, and is quite productive. Of dwarf and robust habit, growing about ten inches high, and produces a profusion of good sized, well filled pods, fairly packed with the finest flavored peas; on good soil each vine will average twelve pods and each pod six peas. The vines grow from eight to twelve inches high. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; ½ pt., 20c; qt., 50c. By express: Half pk., \$1.25.

First and Best. A standard first early variety; popular with gardeners in all parts of the country. This variety is perhaps more largely grown by market gardeners for first early than any other. Crop is very short this year. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; ½ pt., 12c; qt., 40c. By express: Half pk., 90c.

Premium Gem. Height one foot; early and prolific; a type of and an improvement on the McLean Little Gem; pods long and of dark green color. The most popular sort for family use. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; ½ pt., 15c; qt., 45c. By express: Half pk., \$1.10.

Nott's Excelsior. A superb new variety and we are sure our customers will welcome it as an ideal family and market pea. It is fully as sweet and delicious as the American Wonder, and grows one-half taller. Pods are larger and it is far more productive than the Premium Gem, and it is within a day or two as early as the first early smooth pea. The peas are ready for table use within forty-three days from planting. Quality very superior. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; ½ pt., 15c; qt., 55c. By express: ½ pk., \$1.25; pk., \$2.25.

Everbearing. Height 2 feet; late to very late; hardy, vigorous, enormous cropper. Pods and peas of large size and good quality. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; ½ pt., 15c; qt., 75c. By express: ½ pk., \$1.00.

Gradus or Prosperity. One of the finest peas for family use. This remarkable pea is not only large and of the best quality, but it is nearly or quite as early as the small, round, extra early sorts. **GRADUS** is a wrinkled pea with a vine growing about thirty inches high. The pods are of a bright green color, and measure four inches or more in length, as large as Telephone, and equally well filled with luscious peas—8 to 10 or more in a pod. The peas are of the highest table quality and retain in a remarkable manner their color and attractive appearance after cooking. It is a grand pea in all respects. PRICE: Pkt., 10c; ½ pt., 20c; qt., 55c. By express: Half pk., \$1.50.

Telephone. Immensely productive, of the finest quality and excellent sugary flavor; vines very strong, the pods are of large size, with six or eglar, delicious peas; height four feet. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; ½ pt., 15c; qt., 50c. By express: Half pk., \$1.00.

Mammoth Luscious Sugar. This new sugar pea bears pods much larger than any other variety, often six or seven larger, delicious peas; height four feet. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; ½ pt., 15c; qt., 50c. the peas and pods eaten together, as they contain so much sugar, starch and gluten; are very nutritious for family use. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; ½ pt., 20c. qt., 60c. By express: Half Pk., \$1.25.

Improved Stratagem. Late variety for family or market use. Half-dwarf, vigorous, branching habit, and under favorable conditions an enormous cropper. Pods long and filled with seven to nine large peas of extra fine quality. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; ½ pt., 15c; qt., 50c. By express: Half pk., \$1.25.

Champion of England. One of the richest, best flavored peas grown. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; qt., 40c. By express: Half pk., \$1.25.

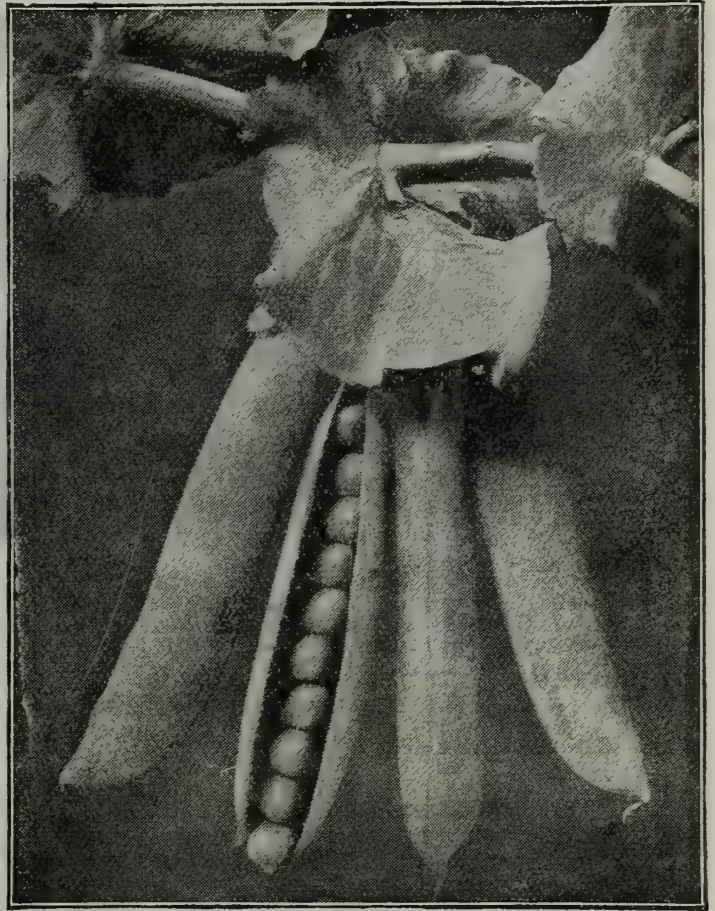
Bliss Everbearing. Height two feet; late to very late, hardy, enormous cropper; pods and peas large size and good quality. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; ½ pt., 15c; qt., 20c; qt., 35c.

Yorkshire Hero. (Big Gem). Height one and one-half feet. Seeds large, yellowish green and quality fine. PRICE: Large pkt., 5c; qt., 40c. By express or freight: Qt., 25c; ½ pk., \$1.85.

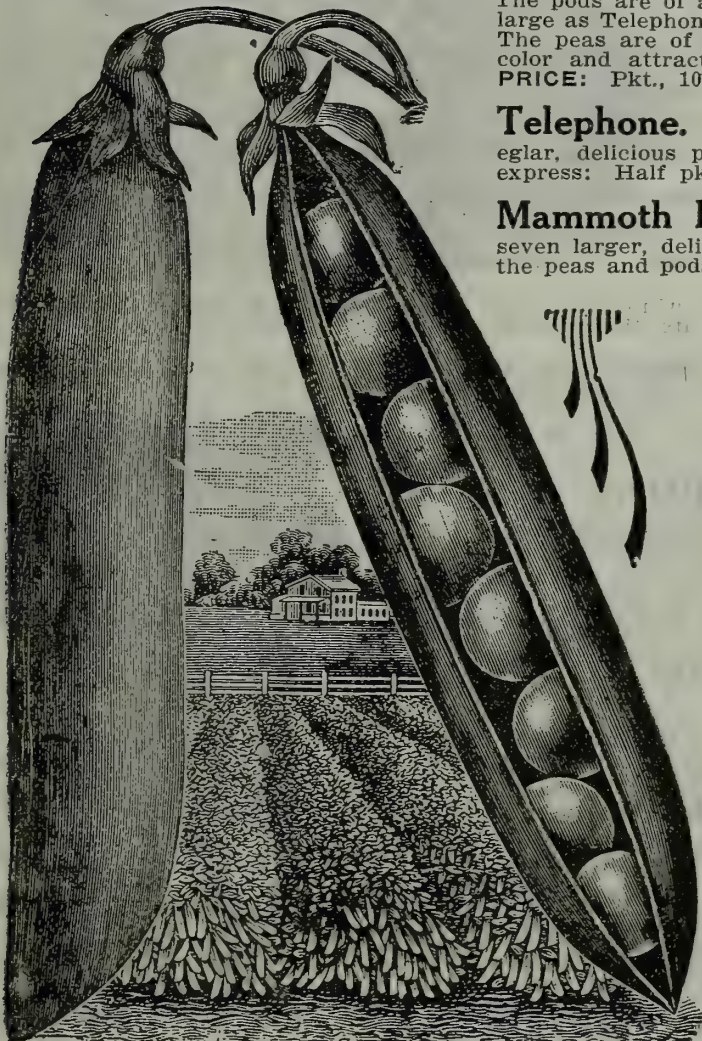
Tom Thumb. This variety was introduced years ago. Vine bushy growing to a height of ten feet; foliage heavy; productive; matures in thirty-five days after sprouting. PRICE: Half pt., 15c; qt., 40c.

Marrowfat. Is grown largely by gardeners and also sown as a field pea for stock. PRICE: Pk., 5c; pt., 10c; qt., 35c. By express: Half pk., \$1.00.

Field Peas. See list of Miscellaneous Field Seeds.



Gradus Pea.



Improved Stratagem.

Durham, N. C.
Dear Sir: I have just received my seeds this morning and they were sure fine. I am well pleased with them. Thanks for the prompt attention given my order
Very truly,
A. KRUTZ.



Scarlet Olive.

Rosy Gem.

Ne Plus Ultra.

French Breakfast.

radish of good size it vies in earliness with the first forcing sorts. It will produce a radish three and one-half to four inches long in twenty-two days from sowing the seed. The leaves are short, admitting of close planting in the hotbeds. The flesh is very white, crisp and brittle as glass, and of fine mild flavor. **PRICE:** Packet, 5c; oz., 15c; ¼ lb., 25c; lb., 85c.

Improved Chartier.

Is decidedly distinct in appearance from any radish in cultivation. Its form is well defined by our engraving, the color at the top being crimson, running into pink about the middle and from thence downward is a pure waxy white. **PRICE:** Same as Early Scarlet Turnip.

French Breakfast.

A small, handsome variety of very quick growth; one-half inch in diameter and two inches long. Color bright carmine, with clear white in lower portion. **PRICE:** Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 20c; lb., 60c.

Ne Plus Ultra.

An improvement on the "Deep Scarlet Turnip." Remarkably fine in quality, of very quick growth, and ready to pull within twenty days after sowing. Perfectly globular little roots of very bright color and excellent shape; certain to insure ready sale on the market. It is one of the best strains of early radishes for forcing. Beds are planted, the crop matured and sold and the beds ready for a second planting, all in thirty days. **PRICE:** Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 20c; lb., 60c.

Rosy Gem.

An improvement on the "Scarlet Turnip White Tip." Their shape is perfectly globular, with rich, deep scarlet top, blending into pure white at the bottom, exceedingly tender, crisp, delicious, equally desirable for either the market or home garden. **PRICE:** Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 25c; lb., 75c.

Early Scarlet Turnip.

One of the handsomest of the turnip radishes and a great favorite in many large markets for early planting outdoors. It is but little later than the "White Tipped Forcing" and will give entire satisfaction where extreme earliness is not the primary object. Roots slightly flattened on the under side; color very deep scarlet with a white tip; flesh white and of the best quality. **Packet, 5c; ¼ lb., 15c; lb., 50c.**

Early Long Scarlet Short Top.

An old standard variety of quick growth, with long, slender roots. Radishes are ready for market about twenty-five or thirty days after planting seed; fresh, crisp and mild. **PRICE:** Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 20c; lb., 60c.

White Strasburg.

Of handsome, oblong, tapering shape, both skin and flesh are pure white. The flesh is firm, brittle and tender, and possesses the most desirable character of retaining crispness even when old and large. Excellent for summer use and withstands severe heat and grows very quickly. **PRICE:** Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 20c; lb., 60c.

Early Frame.

Smaller and about ten days earlier than "Long Scarlet," which it very much resembles. **PRICE:** Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 20c; lb., 60c.

White Lady Finger.

An improvement on "White Naples," or "Vienna." Large, white crisp variety, about as long as "Long Scarlet" and similar in shape. A very desirable sort. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 20c; lb., 60c.

Scarlet Turnip, White Tip.

Handsome bright scarlet, white tip. Many gardeners make sowing of it every two weeks during summer; its fine appearance attracts customers; quality always pleases. **PRICES:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 20c; lb., 60c.

Cincinnati Market.

An excellent long radish of glossy brilliant scarlet color, having small top. The best long red radish for forcing. **PRICE:** Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 20c; lb., 60c.

Early Scarlet Olive.

A very useful variety. Matures in twenty-five days; color bright scarlet, flesh crisp and tender. Best adapted for main crop. **PRICE:** Large pkt., 50; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 15c; lb., 50c.



Scarlet Turnip White Tipped.

Ratekin's Radish Mixture.

A superb mixture of all kinds of radishes, early, medium, fall, winter, Chinese, etc. Sow a row of it and it will furnish you delicious radishes throughout the year. The early and medium ones, as they mature and are pulled, make room for the larger growth of the fall and winter varieties. This mixture is made up of twelve best varieties, and with it it is necessary to make but one sowing for the entire year. You will be surprised and delighted with our popular radish mixture. **PRICE:** Pkt., 10c; oz., 15c; ¼ lb., 20c; lb., 60c.

Long White.

A late and hardy variety of large size. Skin very dark brown or black. Keeps well during the winter. **PRICE:** Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 20c; lb., 60c.

California Mammoth White.

Pure white about one foot long and two or three inches through, tapering regularly to the tip. The flesh is tender and crisp, keeping well through the winter. **PRICE:** Large packet, 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 20c; lb., 60c.

Black Spanish.

A late and hardy variety of large size. Skin a very dark brown or black. Keeps well during the winter. **PRICE:** Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 20c; lb., 60c.

Rose China Winter.

Of excellent quality and a good keeper. Skin a bright rose color, flesh very crisp and brittle. **PRICE:** Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 20c; lb., 60c.

One ounce for 100 feet of drill; eight to ten pounds for an acre.

Radish seed should be sown in light, rich soil as early as the ground can be worked, and for a succession at intervals of two weeks until midsummer. Radishes must be grown quickly and have plenty of room or they will invariably be tough and pithy. Sow in drills one foot apart and thin to two or three inches apart as soon as the rough leaves appear. Most of our radish seed was grown for us in France, "the natural home of radishes," and we think it cannot be surpassed.

Iceicle. (See drawing from nature on back cover.) A new early white radish. This magnificent novelty received its name from the almost transparent whiteness of the root. Although a long



Improved Chartier.

Salsify or Vegetable Oyster

(One ounce will sow fifty feet of drill; eight pounds to the acre).

Why don't you sow salsify? We are certain if you grow it one year you would never be without it. It is one of the most delicious and nutritious of vegetables, and should be more generally cultivated for use in winter, when the supply of really good vegetables is so limited. It has the true oyster flavor, and makes a delicious and inexpensive substitute for them in soup. Cultivate like parsnips.

Mammoth Sandwich Island.

Average fully double the size of the old Long White. Roots are white, smooth, and, notwithstanding their enormous size, are of superior quality. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; oz., 15c; ¼ lb., 40c; lb., \$1.20.

Wisconsin Golden.

A distinct and valuable new sort. The roots are large, smooth and have a decided yellow cast, which gives it its name. They cut smooth and even throughout, unusually brittle and never stringy. When prepared for the table they are very rich, tender and delicious in flavor. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; oz., 20c; ¼ lb., 60c; lb., \$1.60.

Spinach

One ounce will sow about eighty feet of drill; 10 lbs. to the acre.

The finest "greens" of any plant in cultivation. For summer sow early in spring in deep, rich soil in drills one foot apart; cover one inch; sow at intervals of two weeks throughout the season. For very early spring use sow the first of September; protect by covering with straw.

Victoria.

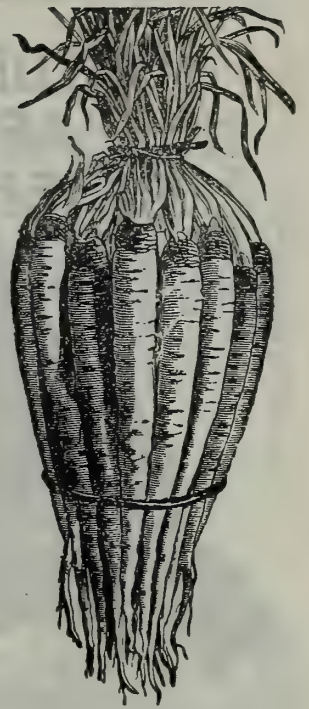
This new variety is distinguished for its exceedingly dark black-green color, and also for its very long standing qualities, being from two to three weeks later than the ordinary varieties. The leaves are thick and spread out flat upon the ground. It is excellent for spring sowing, but not sufficiently hardy to withstand the winter in this locality. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 20c; lb., 35c. By express: 5 lbs. or more at 25c.

Bloomsdale.

A savory-leaved curled variety. Very highly valued; especially in the South. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 20c; lb., 40c.

New Zealand.

Very useful to supply the place of the ordinary spinach during the very hottest months of the year, or in dry, arid localities. A few plants will supply a family with this delicious vegetable from July to October. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 30c; lb., \$1.00.



Mammoth Sandwich Island.



Victoria Spinach.

New Ideal Mammoth Rhubarb

The Rhubarb (or pie plant), is a vegetable which it is difficult to improve, and it takes many years to fully establish a new variety. About twenty-five years ago Dr. Kennicott of Illinois, in growing roots from seed, found one which was so far superior to, and different from all others, that he saved it carefully, and the root has been divided and propagated from year to year until finally we purchased the stock. Like all other highly improved sorts it seeds sparingly and comes more nearly true to name when grown from the seed than most other sorts. The stalks are as large, if not larger, than the Victoria, and are produced in much greater abundance. PRICE: Pkt., 10c; oz., 25c; strong roots, 20c each; dozen, \$2.00.

Tobacco

CULTURE: Sow seed as soon as danger of frost is over; use wood ashes on seed bed. Pulverize soil of seed bed thoroughly. When plants are six inches high transplant into hills four or five feet apart each way, and cultivate frequently. An ounce of seed produces sufficient plants for an acre.

Big Havana.

An improved Havana tobacco, larger than the old sort. It is one of the earliest. Fine texture and superior flavor. PRICE: Pkt., 10c; oz., 25c; ¼ lb., 75c; lb., \$2.50.

Improved Yellow Oronoko.

Produces the best yellow type. Long, broad leaf. For wrappers and cutters; also cigarettes. PRICE: Pkt., 10c; oz., 25c; ¼ lb., 75c; lb., \$2.50.

Improved White Stem Oronoko.

It has a large leaf and is of the finest texture. It cures the finest yellow. PRICE: Pkt., 10c; oz., 40c; ¼ lb., \$1.10; lb., \$4.00.

Improved Long Leaf Gooch.

One of the best for growing on light or sandy soils. Has a long, tapering leaf of fine texture. PRICE: Pkt., 10c; oz., 25c; ¼ lb., 75c; lb., \$2.50.

Sumatra.

Fine texture and small fibre. Grown for its superior quality for cigar wrappers. Best stock. PRICE: Pkt., 15c; oz., 75c.

Vuelta De Abajo.

The finest, silkiest and highest flavored Havana tobacco grown. A fine cigar variety. PRICE: Pkt., 15c; oz., 75c.

Connecticut Seed Leaf.

Grown in all sections of the United States and extensively in Connecticut. Broad leaf of medium length. Suitable for cigar fillers. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; oz., 25c; ¼ lb., 75c; lb., \$2.50.

Sweet Oronoko.

A favorite sort, producing the finest fillers. When sun cured it makes the best natural chewing leaf. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; oz., 25c; ¼ lb., 75c; lb., \$2.50.

The Primus.

This is the earliest tobacco grown. It will ripen even in Canada. Leaves large, fibre fine, texture silky, flavor superior. It makes an elegant smoking tobacco, either for cigars or pipe. PRICE: Pkt., 10c; oz., 30c; ¼ lb., 85c; lb., \$3.00.

Improved White Burley.

The Western favorite, superior to the old variety of Burley. Makes better color; commands higher prices. PRICE: Pkt., 10c; oz., 30c; ¼ lb., 85c; lb., \$3.00.

Improved Gold Leaf.

A bright sort for plug wrappers, cutters and fillers. The plants grow to good size. Leaf long and medium broad; fine and silky. PRICE: Pkt., 10c; oz., 50c; ¼ lb., \$1.50; lb., \$5.00.



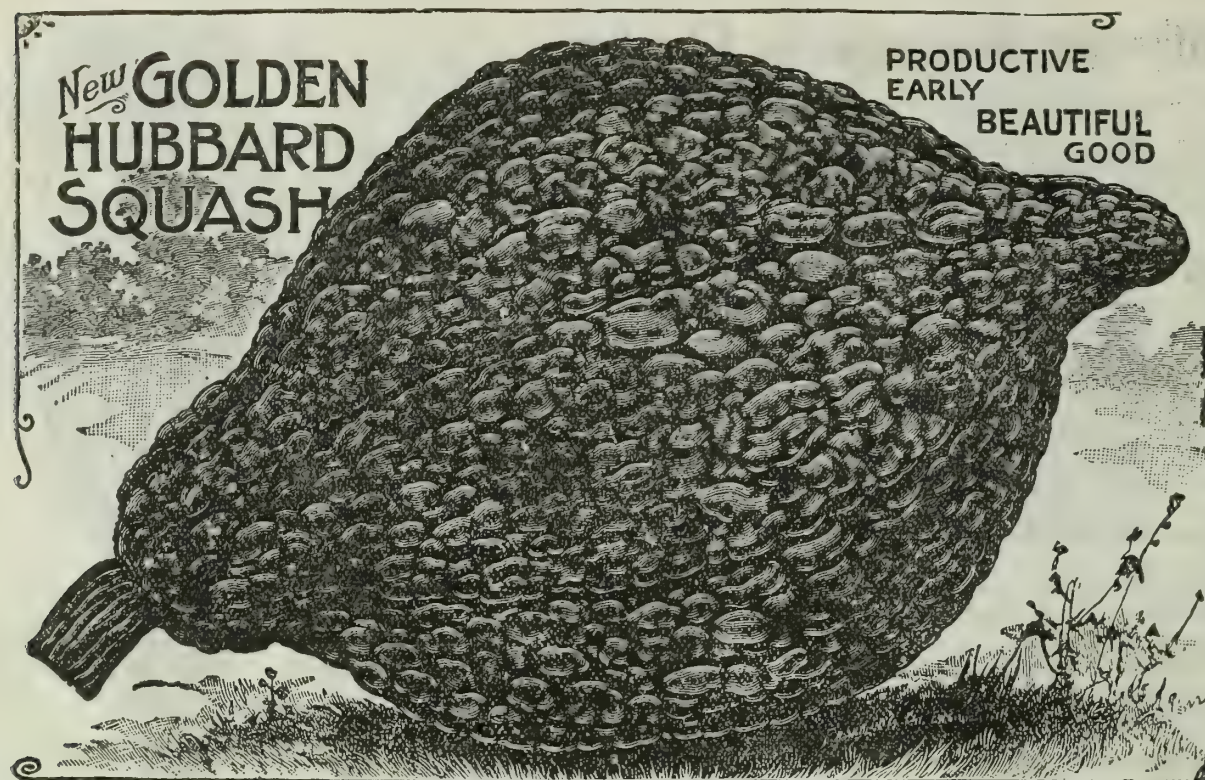
Rhubarb.

Squash

The squash is one of the most nutritious and valuable of all our garden vegetables. Few farmers appreciate the value of winter squash as food for stock. We think an acre of squash costing no more to cultivate and much less to secure will give as much food available for feeding stock as an acre of corn, and we strongly urge our readers to try a "patch" for this purpose. One ounce of early varieties will plant about forty hills; one ounce of late varieties will plant about twenty hills; three to four pounds to the acre.

New Golden Hubbard Squash.

Productive, Early, Beautiful, Good. This is a True Hubbard Squash, except in color, which is bright golden. The vine is a vigorous but not a rampant grower and very



productive. The shell is warty, hard and strong, and a very beautiful orange-red, except for a bit of olive green on the blossom end. The flesh is a deep orange and uniformly so to the rind, never having the green tinge so objectionable in other sorts. It cooks very dry, fine grained and good flavored. We believe this is the best fall and winter sort yet introduced, and that it deserves to and will become a most popular variety. It certainly has no superior as a table squash. Send to RATEKIN'S for the best seed. PRICE: Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 25c; lb., 75c.

There is no vegetable you will appreciate more than our early squashes. Try them.

Early Bush Crookneck.

Splendid summer sort, early, productive, very fine quality. With all the new varieties recently brought out, many claim that there is no summer squash superior to this. PRICE: Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 20c; 1 lb., 65c.

White Bush Scalloped.

Similar to the Golden Bush; color creamy white; an excellent variety for the family garden for early use. PRICE: Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 25c; lb., 75c.

True Hubbard.

This old variety has for years stood the test of all rivals, and is the most popular winter squash grown; hard, green shell; flesh bright orange yellow, fine grained, very dry, sweet and of rich flavor; keeps in perfect condition throughout the winter. PRICE: Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 35c; lb., \$1.25.

Warty Hubbard.

A new strain of the Hubbard. The wartiness indicates a very hard shell which is one of the best features of a long keeping squash. It also denotes extra choice quality—the harder and more warty the shell of a Hubbard, the more delicate and sweet the flesh. The flesh, however, is not as thick as the above. Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 25c; lb., 90c.

Blue Hubbard or Marblehead.

A splendid winter variety. Shell very hard, light blue color; flesh similar to the Hubbard in quality. Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 35c; lb., \$1.00.

Sibley or Pike's Peak.

We consider this one of the very best winter varieties. It has the reputation of being the only variety surpassing the Hubbard in quality. Has large oval fruit, tapering at the blossom end. Shell hard, dark olive green color, flesh light orange color, of the very best quality. Vines of strong growth and very productive. Seed has been very scarce for several years past, but we have a good supply. PRICE: Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 30c; lb., \$1.00.



Warty Hubbard.

Ratekin's "Home Garden" Collection

\$1.50 GETS THIS COMPLETE COLLECTION DELIVERED FREE AT YOUR DOOR.

40 Best Varieties of Vegetable Seeds, Including Nine 1-3 Pint Packages of Beans, Peas and Sweet Corn.

THE BIGGEST AND BEST BARGAIN EVER OFFERED BY ANY SEED HOUSE.

- 1-3 pint Beans, Improved Golden Wax
- 1-3 pint Beans, Long Yellow Six Weeks
- 1-3 pint Beans, Kentucky Wonder
- 1 large packet Beet, Early Eclipse
- 1 large packet Beet, Long Blood
- 1 large packet Cabbage, Early Jersey Wakefield
- 1 large packet Cabbage, Ratekin's Autumn King
- 1 large packet Carrot, Danver's Half Long
- 1 large packet Celery, Golden Self Blanching
- 1 large packet Cucumber, Cool and Crisp
- 1 large packet Cucumber, Chicago Pickling
- 1-3 pint Sweet Corn, Peep O' Day
- 1-3 pint Sweet Corn, Evergreen
- 1-3 pint Pop Corn, Golden Queen
- 1 large packet Egg Plant, Early Round Purple
- 1 large packet Endive
- 1 large packet Lettuce, Early Curled Simpson
- 1 large packet Lettuce, Grand Rapids
- 1 large packet Muskmelon, Osage

- 1 large packet Watermelon, Cole's Early
- 1 large packet Watermelon, Kleckley Sweet
- 1 large packet Onion, Red Wethersfield
- 1 large packet Onion, Yellow Globe
- 1 large packet Parsley
- 1 large packet Parsnip, Hollow Crown
- 1-3 pint Peas, Alaska
- 1-3 pint Peas, Gradus
- 1-3 pint Peas, Telephone
- 1 large packet Pepper, Bull Nose
- 1 large packet Pumpkin, Pie
- 1 large packet Radish, Improved Chartier
- 1 large packet Radish, Improved Chartier
- 1 large packet Salsify, Mammoth Sandwich Island
- 1 large packet Spinach, Bloombdale
- 1 large packet Squash, Hubbard
- 1 large packet Tomato, Earliana
- 1 large packet Tomato, Matchless
- 1 large packet Turnip, Purple Top Milan

This collection is already put up in sealed packages and cannot be changed. Not subject to any premiums or discounts offered elsewhere.

Tomatoes

ONE OUNCE OF SEED WILL PRODUCE FROM 3000 TO 4000 PLANTS.

CULTURE: For first early Tomatoes select varieties of the earliest types, and start the plants under glass during February. When plants are two inches high, transplant into flats, thumb pots or plant boxes, and later on transplant again, giving more room. Never crowd the plants, but keep them short and stocky. Plants already in bloom or with fruit set, if in wooden plant boxes or in pots, may be transplanted to open ground without disturbing their roots, and will continue to bloom and fruit without check. Set these sorts four feet apart each way in warm, mellow soil of fair fertility as soon as danger from belated frosts is past. For main crop, the plants can be started somewhat later, in hotbed or cold frame, once transplanted to keep them stocky, and then set in open ground, in fairly good warm soil, five feet each way. A very ornamental show can be made in the home garden by training tomato plants to stakes, poles or trellis.

Ratekin's New Nameless Tomato

The "Magi Queen" The Prize Tomato.

FAC-SIMILE OF CHECKS SENT TO PRIZEWINNERS IN OUR NEW TOMATO CONTEST.



No. 6706

SHENANDOAH, IOWA,
U. S. A.



J. W. RATEKIN
PROPRIETOR

Sept. 24 1912

Pay to the Order

of Col. C. L. Longley \$10.00

Ten and 100 no DOLLARS

To Shenandoah National Bank
Shenandoah, Iowa

J. W. Ratekin

No. 6661

SHENANDOAH, IOWA,
U. S. A.



J. W. RATEKIN
PROPRIETOR

Sept. 11 1912

Pay to the Order

of R. L. Kimbrough \$5.00

Five and 100 no DOLLARS



To Shenandoah National Bank
Shenandoah, Iowa

J. W. Ratekin

Ratekin's New Tomato---The "Magi Queen"

Letters From the Prize Winners.

WINNER OF FIRST PRIZE.

Vicksburg, Miss., Sept. 30, 1912.

J. W. Ratekin, Shenandoah, Iowa.

My Dear Sir: Yours of August 29th came just as we were starting for a short visit at Waterloo, Iowa, from which we returned last Wednesday evening. Was much pleased, of course, both at being adjudged a "good Indian" and at winning the name prize—as to which Mrs. Longley played it low down on me by asking before showing me your letter, but after reading it, if she could have the \$10.00 in case I won it. Of course I said "yes," thinking a one in a thousand chance offered great opportunity for cheap generosity. With best regards I am, sincerely yours,

C. L. LONGLEY.

WINNER OF SECOND PRIZE.

Mesquite, Texas, Sept. 14th, 1912.

J. W. Ratekin, Shenandoah, Iowa.

Dear Sir: I am pleased beyond measure to say that I have received your letter with \$5.00 check which was awarded me for my description of the Nameless Tomato. I am also highly pleased to know that my name for this tomato was your second choice, and while I regret that I was not the winner, yet I have no doubt but what your selection of name is one that will better advertise the tomato.

You will find enclosed list of names which I think will be glad to receive your 1912 catalogue, and which I believe will do some business with you. With best wishes I beg to remain, yours very truly,

R. L. KIMBROUGH.

Cashier First National Bank.



The Magi Queen as grown on our trial grounds.

than from any other variety I ever used. The season was extremely late and the plants were ready to set out before the ground and weather was fit, but I got them transplanted the first week in April and in two weeks after they began to bloom, and I had ripe tomatoes for table use the first day of June. The tomatoes form on the bush in clusters of hand like shape and it was not an infrequent thing to see as many as a dozen tomatoes in one cluster. I took notice that several of my bushes had as many as eighteen clusters on one bush.

"The NAMELESS SIZED UP FROM EVERY STANDPOINT IS THE BEST ALL PURPOSE TOMATO I HAVE EVER SEEN."

The **MAGI QUEEN TOMATO**: Grand and glorious tomato; the largest, handsomest, finest flavored, most superior early tomato ever offered or introduced. It's a healthy, thrifty rapid growing tomato, one that never blights, rots or spots. The plants are very compact, with stout, close jointed branches, which set the fruit very freely. The fruits are good size and very beautiful; brilliant scarlet color, smooth, sweet and juicy, yet the flesh is solid, almost "beefy," contains but few seeds and with very small core. It is everbearing from two months after it is transplanted until frost, and has proven the best and sweetest of all for slicing and for all purposes.

PRICE: Per packet, 25c; oz., 75c; ¼ lb., \$2.50; ½ lb., \$4.75.

Camp Crook, S. Dak., Aug. 28th, 1912.

Dear sir: The name I suggest for your new tomato is . . . I went into the garden one morning and found the first ripe tomato and I was so delighted. Will say the growth was rapid and ahead of other vines that were planted far ahead of them, stalk and leaves very vigorous, and for that reason stand the Dakota winds better than any other variety. Fruit is smooth and mealy. I wish you success.

Yours truly, MARY KENLEY.

Gorden, Wis., Sept. 23, 1912.

Dear sirs: I planted some of your new tomatoes May 20th, they came up the 25th, and I believe that every seed grew. The weather conditions were very unfavorable, it being alternately wet and then dry, but in view of this your Nameless tomato ripened earlier and was much better flavored than four other varieties planted at the same time.

Yours very truly, RUTH GRATREAKS.

Kind sir: In regard to your new tomato, they are more toos last spring and now the vines are just loaded with tomatoes of good size. I am well pleased with them. Squires, N. Dak., Aug. 27th, 1912. MARTIN JACOBSON.

Thornwood, W. Va., Sept. 23d, 1912.

Dear sir: I have raised your Nameless tomato and find them to be the earliest tomato I have ever tried and cannot be excelled in quality by any other tomato. Yours truly,

H. KISNER.

Hanna City, Ill., Aug. 20th, 1912.

Kind sir: In regard to your new tomato, they are more equal in size and better flavored than any tomato I have ever raised. Has a very thin skin and is very meaty. It is also a fine tomato for preserving and canning and a splendid keeper. Yours very truly,

MRS. FRED E. SMITH.

Montezuma, Kansas, Sept. 23, 1912.

Dear sirs: Your "Nameless Tomatoes" are the best I have ever grown. The seed all came up and bore the finest tomatoes much realer than any I ever saw before. I can beat the sample represented in your catalog and the tomatoes are sweeter and meatier than any I ever ate. My tomatoes were raised in South Gray County, Kansas, without irrigation and are earlier, meatier and more prolific than any I have ever grown. Yours truly,

THOMAS BIRD.

Tomatoes



THE EARLIEST, FIRM SOLID, THICK FLESHED TOMATO GROWN.

Combines the earliness of Earliana with the beauty and flavor of Stone and the solidity of Ponderosa.

Magi Queen

Olive Springs, Roan County, Tenn., Sept. 10, 1912.

In suggesting a name for your "Nameless" Tomato, I want it named **"THE CHAMPION"** Tomato. I weighed one of these tomatoes that weighed one pound and ten ounces and there was a lot of them that weighed a pound and a half. I hope I may win the prize for a name.

Truly yours, MRS. LOVINA RUSSELL.

Modoc, Kansas, Sept. 10th, 1912.

Name it Teddy Roosevelt, after the greatest man of America. I had one vine that measured 138 inches around and had 237 well set tomatoes on it and still progressing. It is the best and most delicious tomato I have ever grown.

MISS RENA M. BOTTS.

Pierce, Arizona, Sept. 12, 1912.

My suggestion for a name for your "Nameless" tomato is **RATEKIN'S Wistaria Love Apple**. We have a new, but very rapidly settling country here; lots of people from Ohio, Kansas and California. Please send me your "Famous" Blue Rose, premium offered, but which I failed to receive.

MRS. O. S. PRATT.

Cordell, Okla., — 1912.

I suggest **PEERLESS** for your nameless tomato. It cannot be overestimated for its abundance, and the name fits so well I would not know how to better describe it.

Truly yours, BERNICE SMITH.

Alba, Texas, — 1912.

I have chosen the name of **HOME SWEET HOME** for your nameless tomato. Everybody loves a good tomato next to home, sweet home, and I sure think the name fits the fruit of this tomato.

Altus, Okla., — 1912.

I have decided to offer a name for your **"NAMELESS"** tomato. Call it **RATEKIN'S NEVER FAILURE**. The name fits because it is the sure thing. It is of excellent shape, very prolific bearer, delicious and a splendid keeper; fine for preserves and for pickling.

MRS. F. A. BLASSINGAME.

Nebraska City, Nebr., — 1912.

Among other names I have thought of for your **"NAMELESS"** tomato is **RATEKIN'S EARLY WONDER**. I think every seed I got grew. I transplanted them and by the time they were six or eight inches high they begun to bloom and bear and are still bearing. Some of the fruit weighed over a pound. It's the earliest bird for table use.

MRS. DICK HOFFMAN.

Spright, Ky., Sept. 10th, 1912.

We have all kinds of tomatoes, but I have never tried anything that comes up to the **"Nameless"** in earliness and productiveness. Name it **Ratekin's Earliest of All—Ever-bearing**. I think the name is the best and most descriptive I can think of.

MONTGOMERY JOHNSON.

A Few Letters From Those Who Have Tried the "Magi Queen."

Springfield, Ill., Oct. 15th, 1912.

Gentlemen: I ordered an ounce of your "Nameless" Tomato seed last spring and am pleased to state that they were exactly as represented. They were the earliest, meatiest and the best flavored tomato I have ever tried.

Yours truly, R. E. ROBERTS.

Quincy, Ill., Nov. 1st, 1912.

Gentlemen: Your nameless tomato is all you claim for them. I am highly pleased with the results obtained.

Yours truly, E. E. BURNETT.

Meldrim, Ga., Aug. 27th, 1912.

Dear sir: I sent you a bunch of your new tomatoes containing fifteen tomatoes on one bunch. They were very nice when they left here, although the ones I sent you were not as fine as some I picked later and which weighed as much as one pound. They were the nicest tomatoes I have ever grown and I will plant more next year. The name I sent in was — Kindly let me know if I win the prize.

Yours truly, ASBURY M. NEASE.

Austin, Texas, Oct. 2, 1912.

Dear sir: Your new tomato is a wonder. It brought splendid results in our neighborhood. Yours truly,

H. H. JENKINS.

Dear sir:

Keysville, Va., Sept. 2, 1912.

I sent and got a package of your "Nameless" Tomato seed last spring and they have proved to be a fine tomato and beat all I have known to grow around here. They are a round, smooth tomato, free from rot, bear well and ripen early. They are fine for canning and can't be beat for table use so we have decided to give them the name of —

I remain yours truly,

EARL CLARK.

Pleasant Hill, La., Sept. 8th, 1912.

Dear sir: Your new tomato seed which I bought last spring made the finest I have had out of five or more different kinds. I like them better than any tomato I have ever grown and my neighbors praise them highly. The name I suggest is —, and I think will prove a credit to your firm, Yours very truly,

MRS. CLARA OSBURN.

Tomatoes

ONE OUNCE OF SEED WILL PRODUCE FROM 3000 TO 4000 PLANTS.

CULTURE: For first early Tomatoes select varieties of the earliest types, and start the plants under glass during February. When plants are two inches high, transplant into flats, thumb pots or plant boxes, and later on transplant again, giving more room. Never crowd the plants, but keep them short and stocky. Plants already in bloom or with fruit set, if in wooden plant boxes or in pots, may be transplanted to open ground without disturbing their roots, and will continue to bloom and fruit without check. Set these sorts four feet apart each way in warm, mellow soil of fair fertility as soon as danger from belated frosts is past. For main crop, the plants can be started somewhat later, in hotbed or cold frame, once transplanted to keep them stocky, and then set in open ground, in fairly good warm soil, five feet each way. A very ornamental show can be made in the home garden by training tomato plants to stakes, poles or trellis.



Ratekin's Earliest Tomato.

Ratekin's Earliest Tomato. Unquestionably the earliest of all. If you sow "Ratekin's Earliest," you will have, with favorable weather, fine tomatoes in ninety days from sowing the seed. It is an excellent shipper, being exempt from rot or cracking, ripens all over at once, and is a wonderfully smooth tomato—none smoother.

PRICE: Packet, 10c; oz., 25c; ¼ lb., 75c; lb., \$2.50.

Ratekin's Beauty. THE BEST MAIN CROP TOMATO. (See back cover for colored plate). Smooth, uniform, prolific, a long keeper and of the finest quality. Fruit is a glossy crimson, of large size and so perfect and uniform that they look as though each one were moulded with a stamp. On account of its perfect shape and great beauty, it is unsurpassed for market. Its quality is excellent, flesh solid, beefy and with very few seeds. Ripens up after the first earlies and continues to bear fruit until frost. A splendid keeper; ripe fruit fresh from the vine have been kept in perfect condition from three to four weeks during the warm summer weather. Planted together side by side with our new tomato, **MAGI QUEEN**, you will have two of the most profitable tomatoes to be grown and can cater to the most critical of markets, thereby gaining the highest prices.

PRICE: Packet, 10c; 3 packets, 25c; oz., 40c; ¼ lb., 90c; lb., \$3.00.

Chalk's Early Jewel. The largest, smoothest and finest flavored, extra early bright red tomato. About ten days later than Spark's Earliana. It is even a heavier cropper, with tomatoes of larger size and sweeter flavor, produced throughout the season. Packet, 10c; oz., 25c; ¼ lb., 75c; lb., \$2.50.

Ponderosa. The largest fruited tomato, and is of fine quality for slicing. The vines are of strong growth; fruits oblong in form, deep through, and generally ridged or ribbed; deep purple in color. They are solidly fleshy with small seed cells; of fine flavor. Planted in good soil, fruits frequently attain a weight of one pound or more. Packet, 10c; ½ oz., 25c; oz., 40c; ¼ lb., \$1.00; lb., \$3.75, postpaid.

Spark's Earliana. An extremely early variety of tomato, and produces large clusters of fair size fruits, which are very uniform in size and shape. It is hardy, and can be set out early. Color of flesh deep red, very solid and fine flavor. Packet, 10c; oz., 30c; ¼ lb., 85c.

Livingston's Globe. In shape this tomato is distinct from all others, being a beautiful globe. It ripens through and through; a fine glossy rose in color, tinged with purple; very productive. Packet, 10c; oz., 35c; ¼ lb., \$1.00.

Livingston's Coreless. Almost round, being of about the same diameter each way. Clusters of four to seven fruits are produced at six to eight inches apart along the stem, and all are of good size. A grand, good slicing variety, the seed cells being surrounded by bright red, heavy, meaty and delicious flesh. Packet, 10c; oz., 35c; ¼ lb., \$1.00.

Acme. Early and bears fruit until cut off by frost. Fruit is purplish, always round, smooth and of good size, and is borne in clusters of four or five; free from cracks and stands shipment well. Flesh is solid and of excellent flavor. Excellent for home and market. Does well both outdoors and under glass. This is a good canning variety. Large packet, 5c; oz., 20c; ¼ lb., 60c; lb., \$2.25, postpaid.

June Pink. The fruits grow in clusters, and begin to mature very early, measure three inches in diameter and are of excellent quality. It bears for a long season, until the vines are killed by frost. Pkt., 10c; oz., 35c; ¼ lb., \$1.00.

Mixed Tomatoes. For the advantage of some of our customers who would like to try all kinds, we have prepared this mixture of the varieties named and several others which we think will please all. PRICE: Packet, 5c; oz., 30c; ¼ lb., 85c.

Matchless. Well worthy of its name, for in beauty of color and symmetry of form it is indeed without a peer. The vines are of strong, vigorous growth, well set with fruit; are entirely free from core; of the finest flavor, of a very rich cardinal red color and not liable to crack from wet weather; of largest size, and the size of the fruit is maintained throughout the season. Solid, a fine quality and keeps well. PRICE: Packet, 5c; oz., 25c; ¼ lb., 75c; lb., \$2.50.

Yellow Plum or Pear. For pickling and preserves. Fruit uniformly oval, lemon colored and smooth skinned. PRICE: Packet, 5c; oz., 25c; ¼ lb., 25c; 1 lb., \$2.25.

New Stone. This is the heaviest and most solid fruited of the large tomatoes of good quality. Our stock is distinctly superior to most of that offered under this name, being more uniform, better colored and larger. Vines vigorous and productive. Fruit round, apple shaped, very large, very deep red in color and astonishingly heavy. PRICE: Packet, 5c; oz., 20c; ¼ lb., 65c; lb., \$2.25.

Iona, Iowa, July 1, 1911.
Gentlemen: The seed I ordered from you have been received and they are sure fine. Allow me to thank you for prompt attention. Very truly, MRS. HENRY GARDNER.

Oct. 2, 1911.

Gentlemen: I received my seed O. K. and they were sure fine. It is too wet to sow them just now. I thank you for prompt attention. Very truly, C. A. HENDRIC.

El Dorado, Ark., March 12, 1912.

Gentlemen: The seeds I got from you were fine, but I got three quarts of sweet corn from another Shenandoah firm and half of it did not grow. Very truly,

MRS. M. E. TAYLOR.

Rochester, Ind., March 22, 1911.

Gentlemen: I received your seed today and thought I would let you know. They are just fine. Very truly, C. A. EBER.

Wild Cherry, Ark., April 8, 1912.
Gentlemen: The seed ordered from you arrived and are sure fine. Thanks for prompt attention. Yours truly, C. L. PULVER.

Waynesboro, Pa., March 22, 1912.

Gentlemen: The balance of my order received and I am well satisfied with them. Very truly, W. WENRICH.

Coral, Mich.

Dear sir: Please send me your seed catalogue. I bought seeds from you last year and I never had better seeds in all my experience, and I wish to get some more. Thanking you in advance, I am,

IDA KNOCK.

Ware Shoals, S. C.

Dear sir: I have just received your splendid seed catalogue. Accept my thanks for same. I am satisfied that I can save more than half in buying my seeds from you. I am sending you an order for what seeds I need and want at the present and am sure I will get what I want. M. REEVES.

Extra Early Purple Top Milan.

One of the earliest sorts in cultivation. The bulb is very flat, of medium size, quite smooth, with a bright purple top. **PRICE:** Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 20c; lb., 60c.

Early White Milan.

Much like the cut; it is pure white all over, instead of having purple top. Quite popular with gardeners. **PRICE:** Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 25c; lb., 70c.

Golden Ball or Orange Jelly.

A very beautiful and bright yellow turnip of medium size. It is hardy and one of the best of keepers. Flesh extremely firm and solid. Always brings a good price in the market. **PRICE:** Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 20c; lb., 60c.

THREE TABLE TURNIPS



Purple Top Globe.

Similar to above, except in shape. The largest yielder of any turnip on the list; desirable for table use or stock. **PRICE:** Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 20c; lb., 50c; 5 lbs. or more, not prepaid, 35c lb.

Early Snowball.

A globe-shaped, white skinned turnip, which is exceedingly productive; very early and particularly adapted for family or market use. **PRICE:** Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 20c; lb., 50c.

Purple Top Strap Leaved.

The standard for this part of the country for late planting. Round, flat, good sized, small top, good flavor. **PRICE:** Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 20c; lb., 50c; 5 lbs. or more, not prepaid, 35c lb.

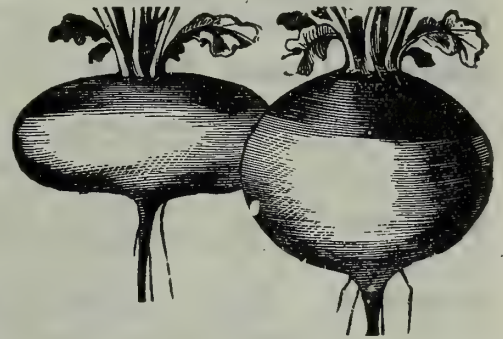
Early White Flat Dutch.

oz., 10c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 20c; lb., 50c.

An early garden variety of excellent quality. Good size and tender. **PRICE:** Packet, 5c;

Mixed Turnips.

All the table varieties of turnips mixed in equal proportions. A desirable mixture for family use. **PRICE:** Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 20c; lb., 60c.



Purple Top Globe.

Rutabagas

Purple Top.

A large early sort of fine quality. Roots globe-shaped, skin purplish red above ground and yellow below; flesh yellow; necks small. An excellent variety in every way. **PRICE:** Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 20c; lb., 50c.



Monarch.

This grand, new distinct form of rutabaga is, we believe, by far the best of all. The bulbs are of tankard shape, with very small neck, skin dark red above ground and yellow below, fine grained and best quality. Only variety succeeding on our prairie soil. **PRICE:** Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 20c; lb., 50c; 5 lbs. or more, not prepaid, at 35c.

Improved American.

Very solid, fine quality, valuable for the table and for feeding stock; good shape; smooth skin, small neck; keeps well; a choice strain. **PRICE:** Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 20c; lb., 45c; 5 lbs. or more, not prepaid, at 30c.

White Sweet German.

Large size, oval form and very solid; flesh pure white and sweet. The best keeping variety. **PRICE:** Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 20c; lb., 50c; 5 lbs. or more, not prepaid, at 35c.

Carter's Imp. Hardy Swede.

Large size, excellent quality and immense yielder. **PRICE:** Packet, 5c; oz., 10c; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 20c; lb., 40c; 5 lbs. or more, not prepaid, 25c.

Hoodenville, Ill., March 22, 1912.

Gentlemen: The seed arrived and I am well pleased with them. They could not have been better. Very truly,
J. E. HOOPUGARNS.

Sheboygan, Wis., May 13, 1912.

Gentlemen: I received my seed and I thank you ever so much. They were fine. Very truly,
P. HAMMERMUELLEN.

Vinalhaven, Maine, March 21, 1911.

Gentlemen: I wish to say the seeds arrived all right and were fine. Very truly,
R. T. CARVER.

Buckhannon, W. Va., Feb. 28, 1911.

Gentlemen: I received the two bags of seed this morning and it is all satisfactory. W. J. DOLAN.

Perdum, Nebr., Jan. 14, 1911.

Gentlemen: My seeds I ordered and received from you last year gave me the best results. Very truly,
E. J. WEISBOOD.

Savannah, April 10, 1911.

Gentlemen: The seeds which I ordered from you, delayed in transit, have arrived and are sure fine. Thanks for tracing same. Yours truly,
S. C. RECTOR.



A Very Select List of Flower Seed

We are pleased to offer a very choice list of the most popular and easily grown flower seeds. They are all strictly fresh and first-class and the best obtainable. We know you will be pleased with them, as they will undoubtedly prove a thing of joy and beauty. We urge every farmer (under the supervision and efficient assistance of the good wives), to plant and adorn the home with flowers. It will pay in more ways than one. We regret that we cannot illustrate every one of the varieties we list, but space forbids. Many varieties that are usually listed separately we have included in a single package under the name of mixed varieties. The pleasure resulting from a large and varied collection of flowers will amply repay for the time and labor used. The grade and varieties we handle are of the best, so we cannot make any great cut on prices, filling the packages as we do. We can guarantee you great value for the money, and know you will be fully satisfied if you pass us your order. Our list contains the up-to-date varieties.

For \$1.00 you may select seeds in pkts. amounting to \$1.25. For \$2.00 you may select Seeds in pkts. amounting to \$2.50. For \$3.00 you may select seeds in pkts. amounting to \$3.75. For \$4.00 you may select seeds in pkts. amounting to \$5.00.

Asters

Of our long list of flowers grown from seed there is now none more popular and generally satisfactory than the aster, and during the past few years it has grown greatly in the public esteem, owing to the great improvements which have been made. For late summer and fall display it has no equal, owing to the rich colors of its perfectly double flowers, its numerous forms and free blooming. The newer varieties specially are of great beauty. Ask for special circular on How to Grow Asters.

Bland's Early June. Decidedly the earliest flowering Aster, being a week to two weeks earlier than Queen of the Market. Flowers of good size, pure white and continuous bloomers. The stems are long. Pkt., 15c.

Queen of the Market. Earliest of all except the above. Dwarf Mixed colors. Pkt., 5c.

Express Comet Mixed. Another very early sort, of erect habit; branching white rose and blue mixed. Pkt., 15c.

Royal Purple. (See cut No. 1.)—A truly royal flower, not only in sturdy character of the plant, but also in the great size and substance of the bloom, and the imperial richness of color in the flower. Of branching type. Pkt., 10c.

Crimson King. (No. 2.)—A type of branching aster, producing immense large flowers of shining crimson shade, on strong, upright stems. Unexcelled as a show flower, either in beds or as cut flowers. Pkt., 10c.

Snowball. (No. 3.)—A beautiful and distinct variety and the best white; of refined and faultless form and very freely productive. Fine for pot culture. Pkt., 15c.

Daybreak. (No. 4.)—Large flowers, intensely double and covering the plant in profusion. Color a beautiful light sea shell pink. Flowers medium early and continuously. Branching. Pkt., 10c.

Crown. (No. 5.)—The center of each flower white, surrounded by a broad margin of color—crimson, rose, violet, etc.; flowers are large, freely produced. Beautiful and showy. Mixed colors. Pkt., 5c.

Marvel. (No. 6.)—A most charming new variety from Germany. Flower large and petals pure white, beautifully striped with a band of blue, red, pink, lilac or some other distinct color down the center of each. A very brilliant and showy flower. Pkt., 15c.

Semple's Branching. Flowers are large and double, borne on large, stiff stems. Mixed colors. Pkt., 5c.

Giant Comet. Shape differs from all others, resembling the Japanese chrysanthemum. The flowers are from 3 to 4½ inches in diameter, perfectly double. We can furnish this variety in white, crimson, light blue and mixed colors. Each per pkt., 10c.

FINE MIXED. Embracing a great many varieties and colors. PRICE: Pkt., 5c.

Lady Slippers or Touch-Me-Not.

These are old favorites with everyone, owing to their handsome double flowers, brilliant colors and stately growth. Half-hardy annuals.

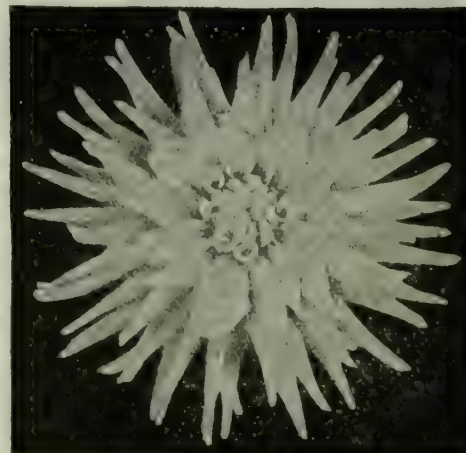
Camelia, Flowered. Double, very choice; spotted and variegated with white mixed. PRICE: 5c. **FINE MIXED.** Finest varieties and colors, mixed. PRICE: 5c.



Asters.



Balsam.



Flowers



Candytuft.

FINE MIXED. 13-inch. PRICE: 5c.

ADONIS. Scarlet flower; best mixture. Pkt., 5c.

Calceolaria. Mixed colors. PRICE: Pkt., 10c.**Canterbury Bells.** Very ornamental garden plants of easiest culture; hardy biennial, 2½ feet high, producing large, bell-shaped flowers of exquisite colors. Fine mixed. PRICE: Pkt., 5c.**Carnation.** The finest of the Pink family, very fragrant. Our seed is unsurpassed. Finest mixed, the best greenhouse variety. PRICE: Pkt., 10c.**Cineraria.** As will be seen by the illustration from a single plant the Cineraria is a wonder for wealth of bloom and symmetry of form. LARGE FLOWERING MIXED. PRICE: Pkt., 10c.**Cypress Vine.** A beautiful climber with delicate, dark green foliage, and an abundance of bright star-shaped scarlet and white blossoms, which, in the bright sunshine, is a mass of beauty. Mixed colors. PRICE: Pkt., 5c.**Daisy** (Bells Perennis). Will make young, strong plants to carry over winter, with protection, and blooms very early in the spring. FINE DOUBLE MIXED. Six-inch. Pkt., 5c.**New Giant Snowball.** A most charming variety of this handsome little flower. Don't fail to give little beauty a fair trial, and it will be sure to please you. PRICE: Per pkt., 10c.**Dahlia.** Everyone knows and admires the Double Dahlia, but few are aware that it can be grown so easily from seed, and flowers the first season.

DOUBLE MIXED. Finest varieties, two to four feet. PRICE: Pkt., 5c.

Fox-Glove (Digitalis). Showy for backgrounds and borders and are very beautiful when planted among shrubs. Thrives in any ordinary garden soil. Fine mixed colors. PRICE: Pkt., 5c.**Dianthus** (Pink.) The China and Japan Pinks are deservedly very popular, as few flowers can equal them in beauty and profusion of bloom.**Chinese** (Double Chinese Pink.) A splendid mixture; one of the finest varieties; one foot. PRICE: Pkt., 5c. FANCY MIXED. PRICE: Pkt., 5c.**Candytuft** (Iberis). Among the most useful of perfectly hardy annuals. Will grow in any soil, requires no care, and produces neat clusters of flowers very freely.**Empress.** A beautiful, pure white variety of branching habit, producing trusses of flowers. We can recommend this for a fine bed of early white flowers. PRICE: Pkt., 5c.

FINE MIXED. Including many colors. PRICE: Pkt., 5c.

Calliopsis. Bright golden flowers, rich velvety and orange colors in choicest mixture. PRICE: Pkt., 5c.**Coxcomb.** A class of very magnificent, attractive and showy annuals, producing massive heads of rich shades and colors, of great effect in the garden or in plots. Well adapted to our climate, as they will stand drouth well.

FINEST MIXED. All colors; 2 feet. PRICE: Pkt., 5c.

Cosmos MAMMOTH PERFECTION. Seed sown in April or May and transplanted to open ground will produce plants five or six feet high by September, and from then till November will be covered with hundreds of blossoms three inches across, resembling single dahlias. All colors, mixed. PRICE: Pkt., 5c.**Hybridus Mixed.** A choice mixture of all colors and sorts. PRICE: Pkt., 4c.**Forget-Me-Not.** Well known garden favorites. Flowers freely from seed the first summer. Blue, sky-blue, white, mixed. PRICE: Pkt., 5c.**Gourds** (Climbing). These curious and interesting plants should be more largely grown. All varieties mixed. PRICE: Pkt., 5c.**Four O'Clock** (Marvel of Peru). Everyone knows this favorite annual. PRICE: Pkt., 5c.**Chrysanthemum.** A handsome plant, with striking and brilliant flowers, blooming till late in the autumn, when it is in full glory; producing double and single flowers of various shades; very attractive for bouquets and vases. Sometimes called "Painted Daisies." Hardy annuals. Single Annual, mixed. PRICE: Pkt., 5c. Crimson and Double Annual, mixed colors. PRICE: Pkt., 5c.

Carnation.

Double Camelia, Flowered. These are like Asters, Pansies, Phlox and Peas, one of our specialties, which we sell to the best trade all over the country, and we know that our seed will produce fine, large, double flowers in great abundance.**Antirrhinum** (Snapdragon). Gaily colored flowers. Choice mixed. PRICE: Pkt., 5c.**Bachelor's Buttons.** It is a beauty, the national flower of Germany, and a great favorite in all parts of the old country. An unique little plant, forming a dense mass of foliage, over which are borne hundreds of lovely blue blossoms, beautifully fringed and serrated. Hardy annuals; two to three feet high. PRICE: Pkt., 5c.**Canna.** Stately and highly ornamental foliage plants, growing from five to ten feet high, and forming a most beautiful object for the lawn or large circular beds. Mixed, all colors. PRICE: Pkt., 5c.**Algeratum.** Valuable plants for large beds or borders, and very useful where cut flowers are in demand; in bloom the whole summer; also good for winter blooming in pots; succeeding in any soil. Indispensable for bouquets. Hardy annuals.

Canterbury Bells.



Heliotrope.

Flowers

Geranium.

Started early this favorite flower can be produced from the seed, and will flower the first season. Finest mixed. PRICE: Pkt., 5c.

Gallardia.

(Annual varieties). Very showy garden annuals, 1 to 2 feet high. Grown in masses they are specially effective; large flowers, 2 to 3 inches across, produced from early summer until frost; unrivaled for cutting. PRICE: Pkt., 5c.

Heliotrope.

A well-known, profuse flowering and deliciously fragrant plant that everyone loves. Splendid for bedding or pot culture. Can be easily raised from seed, but should be started early in the house. Half hardy perennial.

FINE MIXED. Choicest varieties mixed; 18-inch. PRICE: Pkt., 5c.

Sweet William

(Finest Mixed). Hardy plants about one foot high, of extreme richness and variety of color, and also deliciously sweet-scented. Our mixture is of the large flowered strain and contains many bright and beautiful colors and markings. PRICE: Pkt., 5c.

Sunflower.

Some varieties of this well known plant are very ornamental, and are effective in proper situations in shubbery borders or as screens. PRICE: Pkt., 10c.

Hollyhocks.

All our seeds of this beautiful plant have been saved from the finest and largest double flowers only, and will produce flowers extremely double and in the best, brightest and most charming colors. Sow early. Double. PRICE: Pkt., 5c; single, pkt., 5c.

Hibiscus.

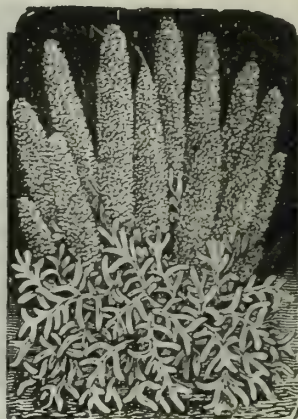
Robust garden annuals; large saucer-shaped flowers of creamy yellow, with purple center; two feet. PRICE: Pkt., 5c.

Hiacinthus Candicans.

Giant summer-flowering hyacinth of robust growth, producing spikes three feet long, of white bell-shaped flowers, five feet. PRICE: Pkt., 5c.

Ice Plant.

Pretty summer annual trailer for vases and rockwork; leaves covered with ice-like drops. Much used in Europe for garnishing; half foot. PRICE: Pkt., 5c.



Mignonette.

Larkspur

(Delphinium). Plants of great beauty, richness and endless variety of colors, with great duration and profusion of bloom.

DOUBLE FINE MIXED. Many varieties and colors. PRICE: Pkt., 5c.

Latana.

Rapid growing, constant blooming, tender perennial plants for pot culture in the winter or garden decorations in the summer; clusters of flowers, orange, white, pink, etc.; two to three feet. Mixed colors. PRICE: Pkt., 10c.

Marigold

(Tagetes). A free-flowering plant of easy culture, with double flowers of rich and beautiful colors, producing a splendid effect, whether planted in beds or borders, and continuing in beauty until destroyed by frost. Half-hardy annuals.

AFRICAN MIXED. Best double colors; two feet. PRICE: Pkt., 5c.

DOUBLE FRENCH MIXED. Yellow, brown and crimson, beautifully striped; one foot. PRICE: Pkt., 5c.

Mignonette

(Reseda Odorato). This fragrant little plant is probably the most popular annual grown. If the plants are thinned out they will grow stronger and produce larger spikes of flowers.

SWEET SCENTED (Odorato). The old variety, very fragrant; one foot. PRICE: Pkt., 5c.

MIGNONETTE. MIXED. Many varieties. Pkt., 5c.

Morning Glories

(Fine Mixed). A mixture of the old varieties. Pkt., 4c.

Moon Flower

(Finest Mixed). Pkt., 5c.

Nasturtium

(Dwarf). One of our showiest and most popular annuals, forming compact plants, making gorgeous masses of rich colored and brilliant flowers. Pkt., 5c.

KING OF TOM THUMBS. Pkt., 5c.

FINEST MIXED. Pkt., 5c.

FINEST MIXED TALL NASTURTIUM. Pkt., 5c.

Pansy

((Heartease). The pansy is the most popular of all flowers grown from seed. It is everywhere popular, both for the brilliant beauty of its flowers and the long continuation of bloom.

FAUST OR KING OF THE BLACK. Pkt., 5c.

WHITE OR SNOW QUEEN. Pkt., 5c.

FINE MIXED. Pkt., 5c.

Petunias.

Indispensable flowering plants for both garden and pot culture, flowering continuously. They flower in a few weeks' time from seed. Height about one foot.

SINGLE, FINE MIXED. Pkt., 5c.

ALBA. Pkt., 5c.

FINE MIXED. Pkt., 5c.

DRUMMONDI. Pkt., 8c.

Portulaca.

PORTULACA. In brilliancy and beauty of colors Portulacas are unrivaled. They delight in sunny situations and light soils, where they rapidly carpet the ground.

FINEST SINGLE MIXED. Pkt., 5c.

DOUBLE ROSE, FLOWERED MIXED. Pkt., 5c.

Ricinus

(Castor Oil Bean). Ornamental plant of stately growth and picturesque foliage, with brilliant colored fruit, producing a sub-tropical effect; fine for lawns.

Zanzibarensis.

The largest castor bean in cultivation. An entirely new class from Africa, with leaves often measuring two feet across, some being light green, others bronze brown. Pkt., 5c.

FINE MIXED. The best and choicest varieties mixed. Pkt., 5c.

Wallflower.

Greatly prized for their exquisite fragrance. They grow in long, brilliant colored spikes of flowers. There are many varieties. Plants removed to pots in autumn will produce an abundance of delightfully fragrant flowers.

DOUBLE VARIETIES MIXED. Pkt., 10c.



Ratekin's Double Hollyhocks.



Double Portulaca.

Flowers

SALPIGLOSSIS.

One of the most beautiful of flowering annuals, forming strong, bushy plants about eighteen inches high, bearing throughout the season large flowers three to four inches across, of many beautiful colors. Sometimes called Painted Tube Tongue.

New Variveined. Much larger than the common Salpiglossis. The surface is soft and velvety and wealth of color marvelous. The colors range from pure white to dark yellow, dark red and purplish black, including light and dark blue, velvety plum color, maroon, crimson, dark brown, golden and lemon yellow, white, dark, purple, black, brilliant scarlet, with all the shades between beautifully veined and mottled. Blooms all summer and till frost. Pkt., 5c.

SALVIA.

Splendens. One of the most brilliant of flowers. It thrives in any light, rich soil; often called flowering sage. Free bloomers. Brilliant scarlet. Is very fine. One of the most satisfactory of all bedding plants. Pkt., 10c.

Mrs. C. N. Page. Dwarf, free blooming sort. Much earlier than Splendens; brighter color. Nothing makes such a brilliant show as a bed of Salvia; is specially fine for bordering canna beds. Offered in seed for first time. Pkt., 20c.

STOCKS.

Sometimes called Gilliflowers. These popular flowers are easily grown, and are so highly fragrant and of such great beauty, and have so many good qualities that they deserve a place in every garden. They should be given good rich soil to grow in and will reward good treatment with remarkable pyramids of bloom.

Perpetual White. (Princess Alice or Cut and Come Again). Strong growth, of fine branching habit, and if sown early will bloom from May to November. Flowers very large and pure white; the more they are cut the better they like it. Deliciously fragrant. Pkt., 10c.

Perpetual Mixed. A mixture of colors of the continuous blooming types of perpetual stocks. Splendid selection of seed; choicest strains. Pkt., 10c.

Large Flowering Dwarf German. Most popular flower with our German customers. Our mixture contains a great variety of colors. Pkt., 5c.

Choice New Spencer Sweet Peas.

Noted for their distinct markings. Flowers are large, beautifully waved and fluted on the standards, with well waved wings.

The Marjorie Ratekin. **THE LARGEST AND BEST LAVENDER SPENCER SWEET PEA YET INTRODUCED.** The flowers are truly magnificent and of immense size. The standard is unusually large and bold, pronouncedly waved, yet standing erect and broad, frequently measuring two inches across. The color is a soft, clear, rich lavender, which is enlivened by a very fair sheen of rose pink.

The large, well-spread wings are of the same coloring, frilled and well waved. It is practically a self color and bunches beautifully attracting universal admiration. The plant is extremely robust in growth, flowering most profusely. The stout stems measure twelve to fourteen inches in length, and a large proportion bear four well placed flowers. **PRICE:** Pkt., 15c; 2 pkts for 25c, postpaid.

APPLE BLOSSOM SPENCER. Rose and bush-pink, beautifully waved. Pkt., 10c; oz., 30c; ¼ lb., \$1.00.

BLACK KNIGHT SPENCER. Rich, deep maroon, very large. Pkt., 10c; oz., 50c; ¼ lb., \$1.50.

COUNTESS SPENCER. A lovely clear pink, shading deeper at the edges, the original of this type.

FLORENCE MORSE SPENCER. Delicate blush, with pink margin, a charmingly beautiful flower of very large size.

HELEN LEWIS (Orange Countess). Brilliant crimson-orange, wings orange-rose.

KING EDWARD SPENCER. Bright crimson-scarlet. Magnificent in size and color. Pkt., 10c; oz., 50c; ¼ lb., \$1.50.

MRS. ROUTZAHN SPENCER. Soft chamois pink, a beautiful shade, and charming as a cut flower. Pkt., 10c; oz., 50c; ¼ lb., \$1.50.

PRIMROSE SPENCER. The largest and finest primrose-yellow.

WHITE SPENCER. A pure, wavy white of enormous size and splendid substance; long, strong stems.

PRICE: Any of the above, except where noted, 10c per pkt., 20c per oz.; 50c ¼ lb.

BLANCHE FERRY. Pkt., 5c; oz., 15c; lb., 50c.

BLANCHE BURPEE. Pkt., 5c; oz., 15c; lb., 50c.

ECKFORD MIXTURE. By mail postpaid: Per lb., 55c; ½ lb., 30c; ¼ lb., 15c; oz., 10c; pkt., large size, 5c.

COUNTESS OF RADNOR. Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 25c.

CUPID. Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 25c.

BARGAIN MIXTURES OF SWEET PEAS. Lb., 30c; ¼ lb., 12c; pkt., 5c.

EMILY HENDERSON. Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 20c.

EMILY ECKFORD. Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 20c.

EXTRA EARLY BLANCHE FERRY. Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 20c.

MAID OF HONOR. Pkt., 5c; oz., 8c; ¼ lb., 15c; lb., 45c.

WILHELMINA. Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 15c; lb., 45c.

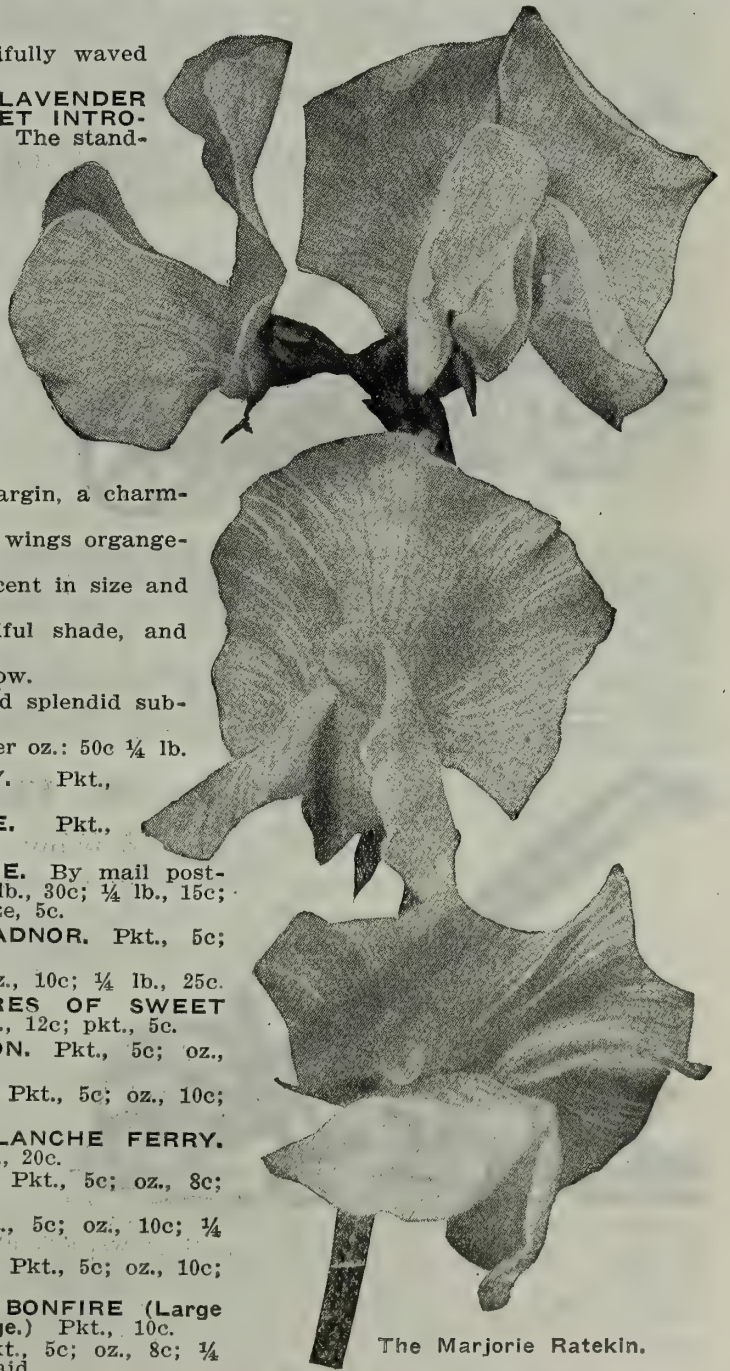
LADY PENZANCE. Pkt., 5c; oz., 10c; ¼ lb., 20c; lb., 50c.

NEW DWARF OR BONFIRE (Large Flowering Scarlet Sage.) Pkt., 10c.

FANCY MIXED. Pkt., 5c; oz., 8c; ¼ lb., 15c; lb., 50c, postpaid.



White Spencer.



The Marjorie Ratekin.

Planet Jr. Tools for 1913

We have not the space to show the whole of the Planet, Jr., line, but will send a descriptive catalogue free on application. All Wheel Hoes for 1913 will be fitted with steel frames. This is a great improvement, as it adds largely to their durability and lasting qualities. By sending your orders to us you can rely upon getting bottom prices.

Planet, Jr., No. 4.

COMBINED SEED DRILL,
SINGLE WHEEL HOE, CUL-
TIVATOR AND PLOW.

PRICE, \$10.50.

AS A DRILL ONLY, \$8.50.

This is the most popular
combined tool made. It
combines in a single imple-

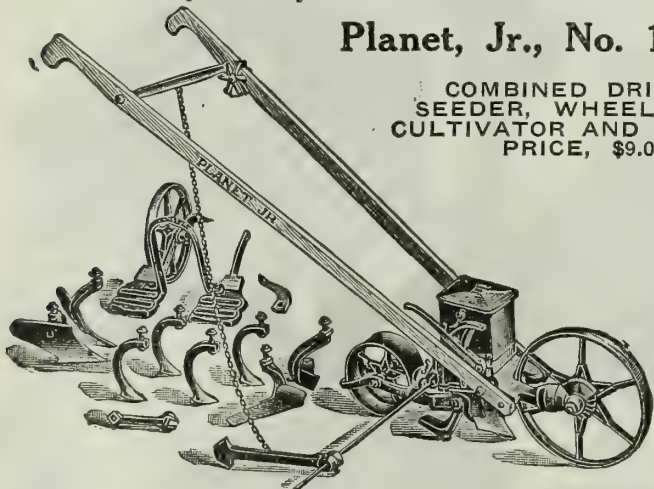


ment a first-class hill-dropping seeder, a single wheel hoe or weeder, a cultivator and a plow. The hopper holds two quarts of seed, which can be sown in continuous rows, or dropped in hills at 4, 6, 8, 12 or 24 inches apart.

The drill is detached and the tool frame substituted by removing but one bolt. It then becomes a single wheel hoe. It is useful almost every day of the season at every stage of the garden work. With this one implement the small farmer can do practically all the work in his small crops.

Planet, Jr., No. 1.

COMBINED DRILL
SEEDER, WHEEL HOE,
CULTIVATOR AND PLOW.
PRICE, \$9.00.



This tool is known and used the world over, and excepting our hill and drill seeders is the most perfect drill known. The hopper holds three pints, and sows in an even, regular stream, whether there is much or little seed in it. The machine is extremely simple, has no agitators, belts or gearing, and will not injure any seed.

From a drill it is changed to its other uses by removing two bolts, when hoes, cultivator teeth or plows can be quickly attached. It is a practical everyday time and labor saver, a grand remedy for the backache, and the best low-priced combined machine on the market.

Planet, Jr., No. 12.

DOUBLE WHEEL HOE,
CULTIVATOR AND PLOW.
PRICE, \$6.50.

FITTED WITH STEEL FRAME.

Two acres a day can easily
be worked with this imple-
ment, and when it is done it
will be a better job than



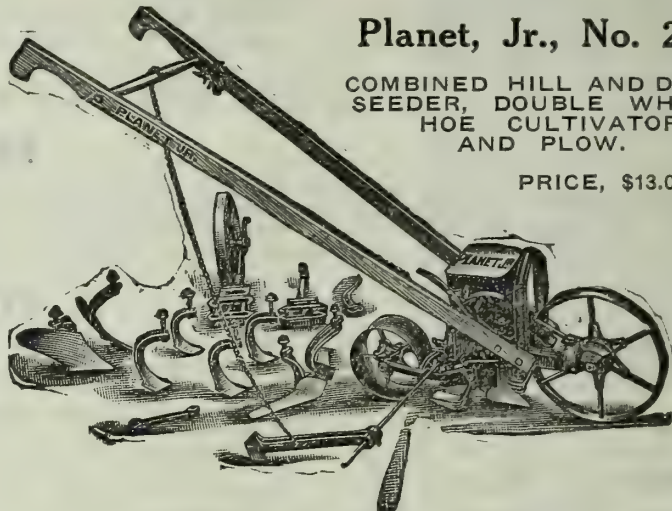
three men could have done in the same time with hand hoes. The No. 12 runs either astride or between the rows; kills all the weeds and leaves the earth in fine shape. Then, too, it's so easy to work. Twelve-year-old girls work gardens with them with ease and success.

The No. 12 has a pair of 6-inch hoes, a pair of plows for opening or covering, and a set of four all steel cultivator teeth. The tools shown are what gardeners use most, and others can be added as wanted.

Planet, Jr., No. 25.

COMBINED HILL AND DRILL
SEEDER, DOUBLE WHEEL
HOE CULTIVATOR
AND PLOW.

PRICE, \$13.00.



This new combined machine is intended for gardeners who have a large enough acreage in crops for a Double Wheel Hoe to be used to good advantage and prefer not to buy separate machines.

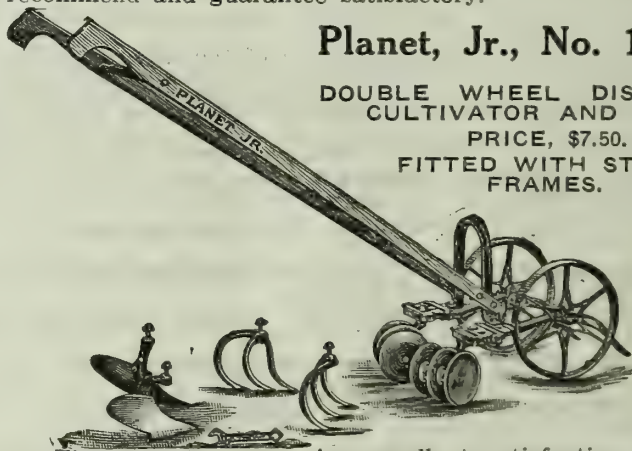
As a drill it is almost identical with the Planet, Jr., No. 4 Drill, and is thoroughly substantial and accurate in sowing all kinds of garden seeds in hills or drills.

As a Wheel Hoe it is practically the same as the Planet, Jr., No. 12 Double Wheel Hoe, the very best machine on the market. The change from Drill to Wheel Hoe takes but a moment, and the whole combination is one we can heartily recommend and guarantee satisfactory.

Planet, Jr., No. 14.

DOUBLE WHEEL DISC HOE,
CULTIVATOR AND PLOW.
PRICE, \$7.50.

FITTED WITH STEEL
FRAMES.



This new tool will give excellent satisfaction; is especially pleasing to all who work peat lands. There are three oil tempered discs on each side.

The set of prong cultivator teeth are constructed on entirely new lines, and will be found invaluable in general cultivation.

The plows are the regular Planet, Jr., model and are continually valuable for furrowing, covering and plowing.

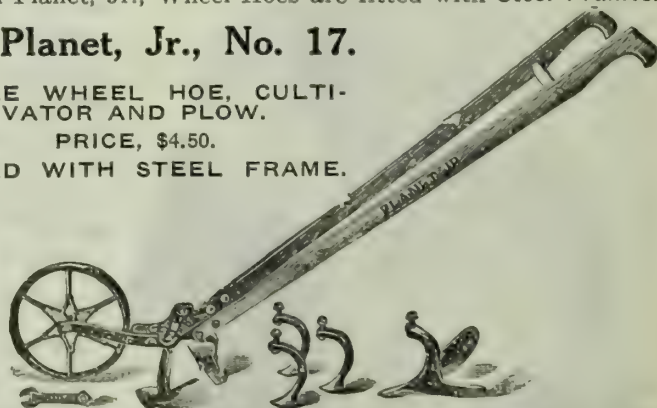
All Planet, Jr., Wheel Hoes are fitted with Steel Frames.

Planet, Jr., No. 17.

SINGLE WHEEL HOE, CUL-
TIVATOR AND PLOW.

PRICE, \$4.50.

FITTED WITH STEEL FRAME.



For easy gardening, and at the same time clean and perfect gardening, the kind that will make your garden the talk of the neighborhood and cause your face to glow with honest pride. Nothing is quite the equal of this No. 17 Single Wheel Hoe. It is suited to all kinds of garden cultivation and all garden crops. You can do more and better hoeing with it in one day than you can do in three days with a hand hoe. The No. 17 has a pair of 6-inch hoes, a plow and a set of cultivator teeth, and outfit sufficient for most garden work. Other attachments can be added at any time.

NURSERY DEPARTMENT

**Hardy, Iron-clad Productive Fruits, Ornamental Trees
Shrubs, Climbing Vines, Roses, Etc.**

THERE IS MONEY IN FRUIT RAISING EVERYWHERE.

**Why Not Plant Orchards? Realize the Wonderful Resources and Possibilities that
Your Home Affords.**

To Our Patrons. It is with a sense of pride and thanksgiving that we look back upon our last year's achievements and we wish to extend our hearty thanks to our many friends and customers for the hundreds of letters we have received praising our way of doing business, and the trees we send out. We wish also to thank our friends for their hearty co-operation in helping us to get orders by sending us lists of the fruit growers in their section and the way they praised our Trees to their friends.

MORE THAN TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO, soon after we engaged in the seed business, we begun to receive inquiries from our patrons with regard to some good, reliable nursery. Through these inquiries we learned of the many fakes practiced on the unsuspecting purchaser by tree agents and peddlers, and were not slow to comprehend that a nursery business founded on the basis of **AN HONEST, "SQUARE DEAL"** could be handled to the mutual advantage of our customers and ourselves, thus supplying **FIRST-CLASS NURSERY STOCK AT LIVING PRICES**.

In view of these conditions the **RATEKIN NURSERIES** were started, our desire being to furnish our patrons and the trade with trees, shrubs and plants direct from Grower to Planter at a much less and cheaper price, and of a very superior grade and quality in every respect than that ordinarily sold over the country by tree agents and canvassers who go about the country with a plate book, showing nice pictures and a blank order book claiming to represent some reputable nursery firm, but who afterward, when they get a bunch of orders, go to some nursery who are closing out their remnants and inferior stock at job lot prices, and from this stock purchase and fill your orders.

Last year was one of the greatest of all in the history of our nursery business. We had over a million **FRUIT TREES** alone to dispose of, three times the amount we sold the year before, but we were sold out long before spring and were compelled to turn down several hundred orders. We lay this wonderful achievement of success to the hearty co-operation we received from our customers. We had to work against the agents, who have tried every means in their power to retard our trade. We have also had to work against other catalogue firms, some of whom have tried to beat our price on cheap and inferior stock. **WE HAVE ALWAYS TRIED TO DO A STRAIGHT-FORWARD, HONEST BUSINESS AND DELIVER TO OUR CUSTOMERS THE BEST TREES MONEY, TIME AND GOOD CONDITIONS COULD PRODUCE DIRECT FROM OUR NURSERIES AT THE LOWEST POSSIBLE COST, AND WE ARE MORE THAN PLEASED TO KNOW OUR WORK HAS NOT BEEN IN VAIN, THAT IT HAS BEEN APPRECIATED BY OUR CUSTOMERS, AND THEY ARE OUR BEST ADVERTISING AGENTS.** If YOU have never dealt with us all we ask is that you give us a trial order.

Shenandoah and the Nishnabotna Valley, where our nurseries are located, have long been acknowledged by fruit growers and authorities in general to be the finest section in the United States in which to grow and propagate **FRUIT TREES** and Nursery Stock. Our soil is peculiarly adapted for the production of high-grade stock, yielding abundant nourishment, but not forcing growth, as is the case in many sections. Our climate, too, is the best suited to make nursery stock sturdy and strong. Our cold but not too severe winters hardens the fibers of the wood in a way that is impossible in milder latitudes. The stock grown in our nurseries is all of a solid and firm texture with an abundance of fibrous roots, so necessary in transplanting. Our patrons therefore have greater success planting our trees than those who plant trees that have because of climate conditions made a more rank, spongy growth.

We have this year over 2,000,000 **FRUIT TREES**, besides the Ornamental Trees, Roses, Shrubs and Small Fruit to offer to our customers. This, among all other years in our experience, has been the most ideal growing year, and our stocks are extra fine.

Nursery Agents and Trees.

I have been interested in what has been printed in The R. N.-Y. in regard to buying from agents. There are two classes of tree canvassers, the unreliable fellows who go through the country taking orders for trees and then buying the cullings of the nurseries to fill their orders with, and the men who actually represent reliable nurseries. This latter class has done a great deal in promoting the planting of fruit trees, and the only difficulty is that they must have larger prices than the nursery will sell direct for, since their traveling expenses and delivery costs must be met. One who is familiar with the nursery trade and knows just where the best trees of certain kinds are grown—for there is a great difference in the product of different nurseries in certain kinds of trees, as the adaptation of soil and climate for the different trees varies—will always know just where to get what he wants and will be posted on prices. But the farmers all over the country are completely unfamiliar with the growing of nursery stock and know nothing about the methods of the various nurseries or their prices, and hence the traveling agent gets big prices from them.

Some years ago a man with whom I was well acquainted was selling fruit trees, and like many of the men engaged in the business knew nothing practically about the trees or the varieties he was selling and simply believed what he was told to say about them. He was perfectly honest and anxious to sell, and came to me one fall, knowing that I was about to buy some fruit trees, and begged me to give him the order. I told him that I knew just where to get the few trees I wanted, and that I could get them for a good deal less money than he could afford to supply them. He asked me to give him a list of what I wanted and he would price it for me. I told him I would give him the list and would send also to the nursery where I intended to buy and have them price me a duplicate list, and when that list came I would be ready to see his prices. When my list was returned from the nursery the little order was priced at \$18. My agent friend came in and I asked him for his list. He gave it to me, saying that he had put the plants as low as he possibly could, and lower than he was charging all around me. His prices summed up \$40, and I never saw a man so astonished as he was when I showed him the duplicate list from a first-class nursery for \$18. There is just the point with all traveling salesmen for any of the nurseries. They may sell good trees, but their prices are entirely too high.—(From Rural New Yorker, Oct. 21st.) W. F. Massey, Maryland.

Read My Free Delivery Offer

I pay the freight or express on all orders for Fruit and Ornamental Trees where orders amount to \$10.00 and over; and on all orders for small fruit, Shrubs, Climbing Vines, Roses, Strawberry Plants, etc., where orders amount to \$5.00 and over, to your nearest railroad station or express office anywhere in the United States.



This is My Free Will Offering for 1913, the Most Liberal Offer Ever Made. No more worrying about express charges, no more hold-ups by agents. We place ourselves at your door. You are dealing with the grower direct.

You know the exact cost of the goods and are insured of quick delivery.

My nursery business is growing. Last year showed an increase of 40 per cent over any previous year.

My customers are enthusiastic over the quality of stock I have been sending them. They have been writing me letters of praise on the merits of my Fruits and Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Roses and Climbing Vines. In fact, everything I grow, telling me how thrifty and hardy the stock appeared, how well it stood severe drouth, and it made me feel good—so good that I am going to make the biggest, best, most liberal offer ever made.

I want to introduce our stock in every section of the country East to West, North to South. I want every one who has a garden or a home to plant a few of my Hardy, Ironclad Fruit Trees, Bushes or Shrubs and to meet you half way I am willing to place myself at your door and pay all freight or express as stated above.

Why You Gain By My Free Delivery Offer.

You know the exact cost of the goods you buy. It insures quick delivery. You get our high-grade stock cheaper than ordinary, inferior grades sold by tree peddlers and agents. It saves you money. It saves you worry. There are no holdups between the grower and the planter. No excessive charges. We assume the responsibility for safe delivery.

Our Guarantee. We guarantee safe arrival of all goods to any express or freight office in the United States in first-class condition. Should they be otherwise we will replace immediately.

WE REPLACE ANY TREES WHICH FAIL TO LIVE at one-half the current "Each" price, provided trees have been properly planted and cared for.

WE GUARANTEE TREES TRUE TO NAME, and use the utmost care to avoid mistakes, but should any prove untrue to label we will, upon proper proof, replace trees free; but are liable no further. Our liberal treatment of our customers during the past quarter of a century is our best guarantee for the future.

THE PRICES are for the quantities named, but six, fifty and five hundred will be supplied at twelve, hundred and thousand rates, respectively, i. e., six at half the price of twelve; fifty at half price of one hundred, and so on.

ALL OUR SHIPMENTS OF TREES will be accompanied by Certificate of Inspection of the State or Government Entomologists. Good stock, true to name, sold direct to the planter at reasonable prices is our aim.

BE FREE TO WRITE us for any information not found in this catalogue on a separate sheet of paper from your order, as your letter goes to the office and your order to the mail order department. Always be free to write. We like to hear from our friends and customers.

NURSERY STOCK BY MAIL. To accommodate our patrons who do not get their mail at railroad towns, and to save express on small orders of roses, shrubs, small fruits, etc., we have a Mail Department, but we shall only mail the following kinds of stock, in order running from 50 cents to \$2.00: Dewberries, raspberries, blackberries, currants, Juneberries, gooseberries, Strawberries, Rocky Mountain cherry, grapes, roses, shrubs, climbing plants, seedling evergreens, bulbs. In remitting don't fail to add to the price in the list at the rate of 20 cents for each \$1.00 of order to pay postage. If your order is 50 cents send us 60 cents; if \$1.00 send us \$1.20, etc. Small stock can be sent just as safely by mail as by express.

Location, Planting and Care.

DRIED UP TREES. In case trees arrive a little dry from delay on railroad, as will sometimes occur, bury the trees, root and branch, in moist soil and in two or three days the whole lot will be found bright and fresh, and in proper condition for setting.

LOCATION. The best is a northern exposure, and rich ground better than low ground. A southern exposure is the poorest. **PREPARATION OF THE SOIL.** Prepare a rich, deep bed of mellow soil and have the land sufficiently drained to relieve the roots from standing water. To insure a fine growth land should be in as good condition as is required for a crop of corn, wheat or potatoes.

SOIL. A clay sub-soil is best. If you do not have a clay sub-soil mulch heavily to keep the ground moist and cool.

PLANTING. Before planting cut roots and tops back vigorously. Either dip roots in thin mud before planting, or pour in plentifully of water when the hole is about one-half full. Holes for trees should be large and deep.

HOW TO SET. Sift some fine, rich soil among roots, two or three inches deep, tamp the ground firm, throw in more soil and tamp again. Repeat until hole is nearly full—make the ground very firm. The last soil thrown in leave loose. Put no manure in the hole. Do not heap the dirt up, but leave the hole basin-shaped.

MULCHING. If you cannot cultivate trees often use lots of mulch. Put on thick for three or four feet out from the trees, but not within three or four inches of the trees.

SEND LARGE BILLS FOR PRICING. In some cases and in some lines we are able to give a special discount. We will give you as much for your money as any nursery.

Always Write Your Names and Address Plainly; give your full name, postoffice address, county and state, street number, box or rural route, as may be necessary. Give shipping point, if different from your postoffice address. State plainly how much money you enclose and in what form, whether postoffice, express order or bank draft.

Distance for Planting and Number to the Acre.

	Distance	No. Acre		Distance	No. Acre
Blackberries or raspberries.....	3x4 ft.....	3,630	Apple and crab	16x16 ft.....	171
Strawberries, field	1x3½ ft.....	9,680	Cherry, plum, pear	12x15 ft.....	240
Strawberries, garden	1x2 ft.....	21,880	Grapes	8x 8 ft.....	680
Asparagus	1x1 ft.....	43,560	Currants, gooseberries	3x 4 ft.....	3,630

To find the number of plants required for any given sized piece of ground multiply the length of the piece by the width, divide this by the product of the distance multiplied by the width plants are apart. Example: A piece of ground is 20 by 100 feet, has 2,000 square feet. If currants are planted 3 by 4 feet, each plant will occupy 12 square feet; 2,000 divided by 12 gives 167.

Apples

THE FIRST FRUIT, both in importance and general culture, is the apple. Its period, unlike that of other fruits, extends nearly through the year. By planting judicious selections of summer, autumn and winter sorts **A CONSTANT SUCCESSION** can be easily obtained.

THERE SEEMS TO BE NO LIMIT TO THE PROFITABLE PRODUCTION OF THE APPLE. Take any particular year and you cannot name another crop so reliable and so profitable as a well-cared-for apple orchard. There is no reason to look for any change in this. Even with farm products low and in little demand there has been no year when there was not a good market for choice apples at paying prices.

THERE IS NO FARM CROP WHICH, ON THE AVERAGE, WILL PRODUCE ONE-FOURTH AS MUCH INCOME PER ACRE AS WILL A GOOD APPLE ORCHARD. As it takes from three to five years for an orchard to come into bearing, some people hesitate to plant, regarding the time and expense.

Numerous examples of apple culture point the way to success. We may plant largely with every assurance of success if our plantations are properly cared for.

We offer the following varieties which are the best in cultivation at this time:

Summer Apples

Yellow Transparent.

(Russian Transparent, Grand Sultan). Of Russian origin; imported by the Department of Agriculture; ripening with Early Harvest, while the fruit will keep after ripening, making it peculiarly adapted for early shipping. Fruit pale yellow, roundish, oblate medium size and good quality; skin clear white at first, becoming a beautiful yellow when fully ripe.

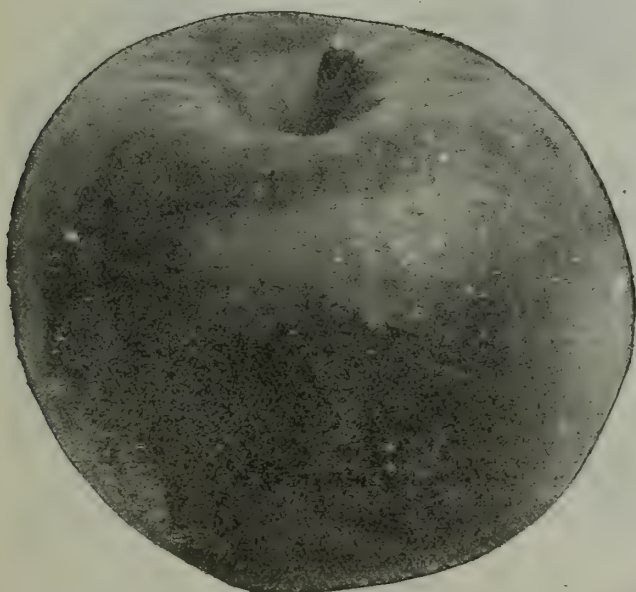
Benoni. Medium, roundish, pale yellow, shaded with crimson; juicy, tender, sub-acid. August.

Duchess of Oldenburg. Russian; medium to large size; skin yellow, streaked with red and somewhat blushed; flesh juicy and good, with a rich sub-acid flavor; tree a vigorous grower and abundant bearer; one of the ironclads. August.

Early Harvest. Medium to large, roundish, bright straw color; flesh white, tender, juicy, crisp, with a rich sub-acid flavor; tree vigorous and productive; one of the best. First of July.

Red June. Medium size; good quality; a good bearer; ripens after Early Harvest; bears well, but the apples do not keep long. It is therefore not best to plant too many.

Red Astrachan. Free growth; large, roundish; deep crimson; juicy, rather acid; good; very hardy; highly esteemed on account of its fine appearance, earliness and hardness. Ripening August.



Fameuse or Snow.

Fall Pippin.

Very large, roundish, skin smooth, yellowish green, becoming rich yellow when ripe; valuable for cooking and market.

Fall Apples

Fameuse (Snow). Tree hardy, vigorous and productive; a fine apple of medium size, round; surface pale yellow, nearly covered with red, made up of stripes and splashes; flesh snowy white, tender, fine grained, juicy; flavor mild, subacid; quality good to very good.

Harry Kaump. We know of no apple that excels the Kaump for cooking purposes. Originated in Wisconsin, this is without doubt one of the hardiest apples propagated today. It comes into bearing early and is a continuous bearer. Fruit medium green, with show of color on sunny side; mildly acid and unsurpassed for dessert uses; late fall. After the Duchess we consider this the next best apple for Dakota, Iowa and southern Minnesota. You will never regret it if you buy a half dozen of these trees for family use.

Maiden's Blush. This is the well-known and deservedly favorite fall apple. Tree vigorous, upright grower, spreading, very productive; fruit medium to large, flat and very handsome; surface smooth, polished, pale waxen yellow, with rich blush; flesh white, fine-grained, juicy; quality good; for cooking, table and market. August and September.

Rambo. Tree strong, upright grower, abundant bearer; fruit medium to small on old trees; round, somewhat flattened at the ends; surface striped and splashed with scarlet on greenish yellow ground; flesh greenish white, tender, juicy; flavor subacid. September to December.

Alexander. A very large and beautiful deep crimson apple, with pleasantly flavored yellowish white flesh. Very hardy. August and September.

DIRECT FROM GROWER TO PLANTER.

We are selling trees to planters at nearly wholesale prices. How can we do this? We can do it for the reason that we do not have to pay salaries to tree agents and tree peddlers to canvas the country. We have no agents. Our catalogue is our only salesman. Those nurserymen who sell through agents spend half the money they get for the sale of trees in paying agents and agents' expenses.



Rome Beauty.

Winter Apples

Rome Beauty. A favorite that has an established reputation on all markets, and always brings good prices on account of its large size and great beauty. In market value is classed with the very best. It is large, uniform and smooth, shaded and striped with bright red, tender, juicy and good, a good cooker and especially fine baked. Blooms late and is one of the surest annual bearers.

Wealthy. An excellent apple which we unhesitatingly recommend as being absolutely the best of its season. Large, very smooth and almost entirely overspread with brilliant red; no apple is more beautiful; splendid quality, a good keeper and a most profitable market sort. For those who prefer a subacid apple it is the equal of Jonathan; for all culinary purposes it is perfection, especially baked. Being very hardy and a young bearer, it is especially valuable for cold climates. Planters, particularly those of the North, will make no mistake in their selection of this splendid apple; it is one of the very excellent and valuable varieties that has slowly but surely made its way into the front ranks. We strongly recommend its planting in all home orchards, and it should be planted much more extensively in commercial orchards. It is a money-maker.

Ben Davis. Grown everywhere. Very hardy, a rapid grower, coming into bearing in two or three years; very productive and always commands the admiration of all. In fact, they are so large, beautiful and handsome, and withal such a splendid eating and cooking apple that they always command the attention of every one who loves a good apple.

Northwestern Greening. Fruit large and smooth; color greenish yellow; flesh fine grained; juicy, firm and a good quality; a good apple for the North.

Jonathan. Medium size, of a deep red color; flesh very tender, juicy and rich; a very productive apple; one of the very best varieties for the table, cooking or market; very popular throughout the West. See outside cover page for illustration in full colors.

In addition to the foregoing varieties named we have a full assortment of the following at same prices per one, ten or per hundred. The following list are all well tested sorts, and we believe the best for general planting and marketing.

PRICES ON ALL THE FOREGOING AND FOLLOWING LIST OF APPLE TREES:

		Each	Per 10	Per 100
Extra 2 and 3 year.....	6 to 7 feet.....	\$0.28	\$2.50	\$24.60
Large size, 2 year	5 to 6 feet.....	.22	2.10	19.80
1 year, No. 1	4 to 6 feet.....	.20	1.80	15.80
1 year, No. 2	3 to 4 feet.....	.15	1.50	12.80

Summer Varieties.

A. S. Pearmain Chenango Strawberry Summer Pippin Summer Queen

Fall Varieties.

Flora Belle Hibernial Utter's Red Red Beitinheimer Pewaukee

Winter Varieties.

Ark Beauty	Day	Roman Stem	Yellow Belleflower	Cranberry Pippin
Ark Black	Gideon's Best	Salome	Peerless	Stayman's Winesap
Baldwin	Huntsman	Lawver	Price's Sweet	Scott's Winter
Banana	Iowa Beauty	Longfield	Ramsdell Sweet	Walbridge
Lansingberg	Ingram	Mo. Pippin	Carthouse	York Imperial
Coffelt	Jenet			

Crab Apples

Transcendent. Of the largest size of this class of apples; striped red, showy, excellent and very handsome.

Whitney. Large, glossy green, splashed with crimson; flesh firm, juicy; flavor very pleasant; ripens latter part of August; tree a good bearer and very hardy.

Yellow Siberian. Large and of beautiful golden yellow color; tree vigorous.

General Grant. Tree an erect and vigorous grower, fruit in dense clusters; quality excellent. October to December.

Florence. Large, very handsome and hardy; bears early and profusely.

Hyslop. Almost as large as early strawberry apple; deep crimson; very popular on account of its size, beauty and hardiness; tree vigorous.

Large Red Siberian. About an inch in diameter, grows in clusters; yellow, lively scarlet cheek; tree erect, vigorous, bears young and abundantly. September to October.

Price.	Each	Per dozen
5 to 7 ft., 3 yr. old, select grade.....	\$0.35	\$3.50
4 to 5 ft. ....	.30	3.00
3 to 4 ft. ....	.25	2.50

ESPECIAL ATTENTION IS CALLED TO THE FACT THAT THE RATEKIN NURSERY COMPANY PAYS THE FREIGHT or express on all orders for Fruit and Ornamental Trees where orders amount to \$10.00 and over and on all orders for small fruit and shrubs, climbing vines, roses, strawberry plants, etc., where orders amount to \$5.00 and over, to your nearest railroad station or express office anywhere in the United States.

Gooseberries

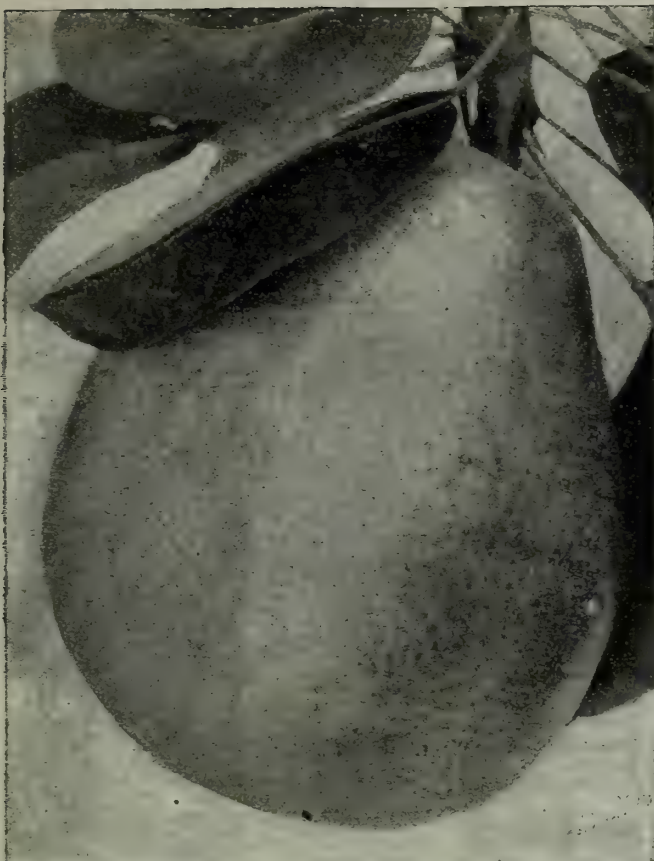
The bushes should be planted the same distance apart as currants. They should be annually and rather severely pruned by thinning all feeble and crowded branches. Mulch the same as currants.

Downing. Fruit large, roundish, light green, with distinct veins; skin smooth; flesh soft, juicy and good. Vigorous and productive.

Houghton. A medium sized American variety; bears abundant and regular, and never mildews; fruit smooth, tender and good; very valuable. No variety found that gives better satisfaction.

Industry. The best English gooseberry yet introduced; of vigorous, upright growth; a greater cropper than any known variety; berries of the largest size and of the most excellent flavor, both pleasant and rich; color when fully ripe dark red.

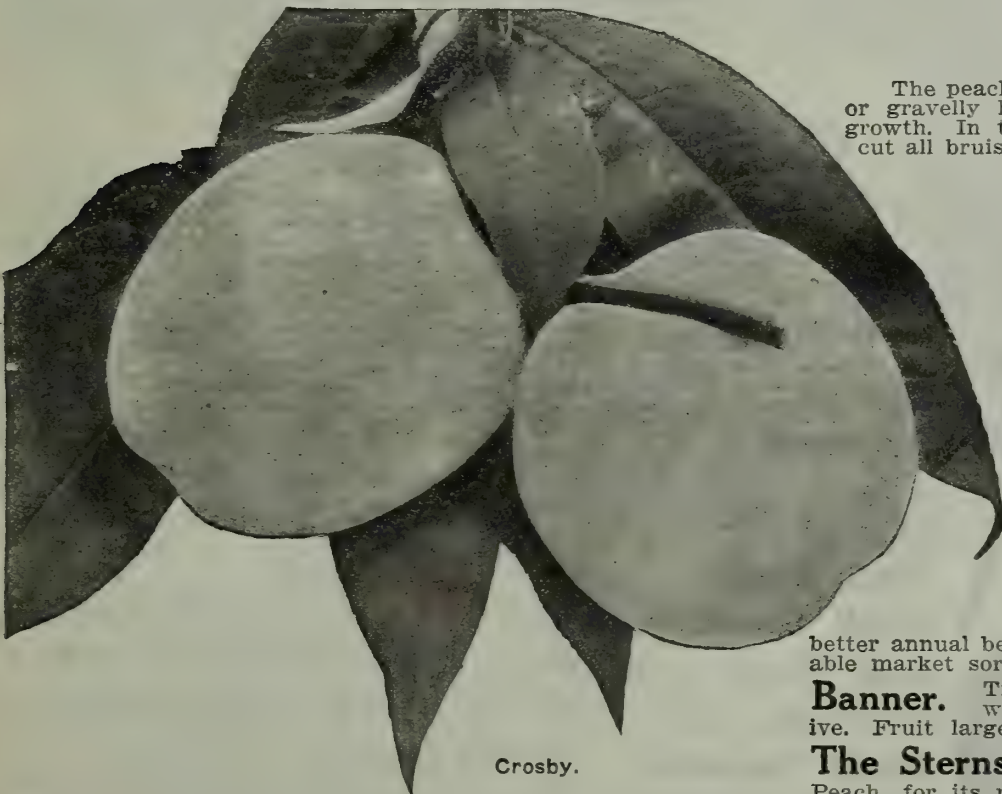
Two yr., No. 1, 15c each; \$1.50 per 12; \$8.00 per 100. One yr., No. 1, 10c each; \$1.00 per 12; \$6.00 per 100.



Kieffer Pear.

Seckel. Small, rich, yellowish-brown; one of the best and highest flavored pears known; very productive. September and October.

Worden Seckel. A seedling of the Seckel, which for many years has been conceded to be the standard of excellence. Equal in quality to its famous parent, which it much resembles in flavor. Tree a more upright and rapid grower than Seckel; hardy and an enormous bearer; fruit keeps well, retaining its quality to the last. October.



Crosby.

Elberta. Large, yellow, with red cheek. Flesh yellow, firm, juicy. Exceedingly prolific, sure bearer and hardy. The leading market variety. Middle September.

Fitzgerald. Fruit large, brilliant color, suffused with red. Flesh deep yellow, best quality. Early September.

Niagara. Originated in western New York, where it has been well tested.

Hill's Chilli. Medium, dull yellow, extra hardy and productive. Last of September.

Pears

The best soil for pear culture should be of rich and heavy quality. The fruit of summer and autumn varieties should be picked as soon as it has attained full size, when, if ripened in dark, dry closets, it is not subject to rotting at the core, and develops its best flavor. Pick winter sorts as soon as the weather indicates the liability of hard frost.

Thinning out the fruit increases the size and quality of the remaining crop.

	Each.	Per doz.
5 to 7 ft., 3 yr., selected	\$0.30	\$3.00
4 to 5 ft., 2 yr., selected .....	.25	2.50
3 to 4 ft. ....	.20	2.00

Anjou. A large, handsome, greenish-yellow pear, blushed dull red and clouded with russet—one of the most delicious late fall pears—very juicy and of excellent quality. It succeeds everywhere. Should be largely planted commercially.

Bartlett. Large size, with often a beautiful blush next the tongue; buttery, very juicy and highly flavored; bears early and abundantly. Tree vigorous and very popular.

Clapp's Favorite. Very large; color yellowish green to full yellow when ripe; marbled with dull red in the sun; covered with small specks. Melting and rich; should be gathered early; tree vigorous.

Comice. Large, roundish, greenish-yellow, shading to bright yellow when fully ripe; flesh fine grain, white, melting and sweet. A good shipping pear. October and November.

Early Harvest. Large, golden-yellow, with bright red cheek, quality not the best, but grown extensively for market on account of its size, beauty and hardness; ripens ahead of Bartlett.

Flemish Beauty. Large, juicy, melting and rich; strong grower and good bearer; very hardy. September and October.

Kieffer. This is the most popular pear grown; fruit of fine size, rich color and good quality; tree very vigorous and seldom blights; should be picked at maturity and ripened in doors. October and November.

Lawrence. Medium to large; lemon-yellow, with small brown dots; flesh white, juicy and melting and of good quality; one of the best winter pears known.

Peaches

The peach requires a well drained soil, a warm, sandy or gravelly loam is well suited to preserve a healthy growth. In trimming trees to plant use a sharp knife, cut all bruised roots off, making a clean cut. Trim side limbs off three inches from tree.

Price of Peaches:	Each.	Per dozen
5 to 7 ft., selected	\$0.20	\$2.00
4 to 5 ft., medium .....	.18	1.75
3 to 4 ft., 1 yr. old .....	.15	1.50

Alexander. Early, medium size, greenish white, nearly covered with red cheek, handsome, cling. July.

Admiral Dewey. Ripens with the Triumph, better form and color, stronger grower, hardy and productive. July.

Barnard. Medium, yellow, juicy and rich, hardy and productive. Early September.

Brunson. Large, yellow, with red cheek, sweet, rich, hardy and productive. Last of September.

Beers Smock. A large yellow flesh peach, an improvement on Smocks Free which it resembles, ripens a few days later and is a better annual bearer. One of the most desirable and profitable market sorts. Last of September.

Banner. Tree a good grower, exceedingly hardy in both wood and buds, bears young, is very productive. Fruit large. Deep yellow.

The Sterns Peach. No one can sing too loudly the praise of the Sterns Peach, for its remarkable qualities cannot fail to make it herculean among the varieties of peach trees now under cultivation.

Crosby. One of the hardiest, abundant bearers, medium quality, bright yellow, fine quality. Middle September.

Early Rivers. Large, creamy white, with pink cheek, juicy and melting. August.

Greensboro. The largest and most beautifully colored of all early varieties. Double the size of Alexander, ripening at the same time. Flesh white, juicy and good. July.

Plums need care and attention, but they will pay for it very liberally. The Japan plums bear younger than the Europeans, and are great growers, with handsome foliage and fruit. Our plums are grown on plum stock.

PRICES ON ALL EXCEPT DAMSON.

First Class, $\frac{3}{4}$ and up, 2 yr., 35c each; \$3.50 per 12; \$25.00 per 100.

Select Medium, $\frac{5}{8}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$, 30c each; \$3.00 per 12; \$20.00 per 100.

Light Medium, $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{5}{8}$, 20c each; \$2.00 per 12; \$15.00 per 100.

JAPANESE PLUMS.

Abundance. Medium size, round with slight point. Beautiful shade of red over yellow body. Flesh yellow, firm and juicy, with a slightly subacid flavor. Ripens in July.

Red June. Recommended as the best Japanese plum, ripening before Abundance. One of the vigorous upright growers. Productive, fair size, vermilion red, pleasant quality. Ripens a week before Abundance.

Satsuma Large, globular, with sharp point. Color purple and red. Flesh firm, juicy, red blood color. Fine quality, pit small. Hardy and vigorous grower. August.

Wickson. Fruit remarkably handsome. Very large. Long, heart shaped. Color deep maroon, flesh firm and meaty, yellow, rich and aromatic; pit small. Tree an upright, vigorous grower, excellent keeper and shipper. Early September.

Burbank. The best and most profitable of growers for market. Ripens ten to fourteen days after Abundance, tree hardy, sprawling, vigorous grower, unequaled in productiveness, bears young, fruit large, excellent quality. Cherry red, with a lilac bloom, ripens from middle of July to first of August.

Plums



EUROPEAN PLUMS.

Bradshaw. Large, dark red, flesh green, juicy, productive, fine for market. August.

German Prune. Large, dark purple, good. September.

Grand Duke. Color of Bradshaw, fruit very large, of fine quality, free from rot, very productive. Tree a moderate grower. Last of September.

Shipper's Pride. Quite large and showy, frequently two inches in diameter, oval, dark purple, of Damson type; flesh is sweet and firm, keeping and shipping long distances well. September.

Lombard. Medium, violet red, juicy, good. Hardy and productive. The leading market variety. August.

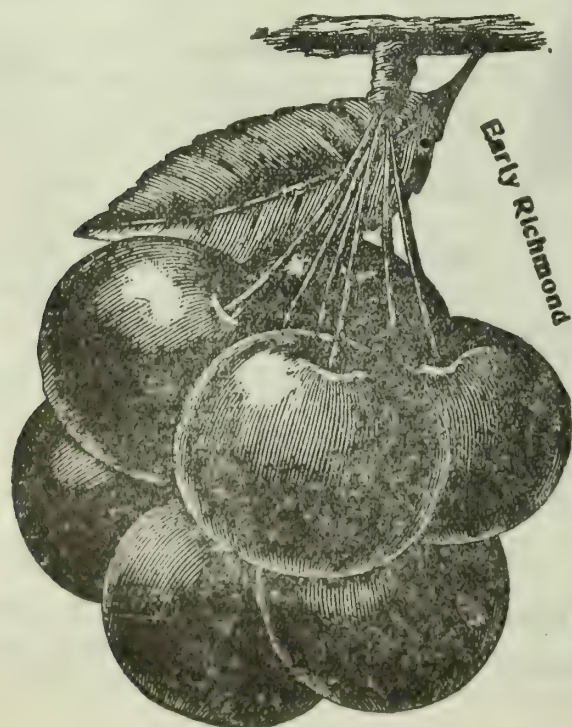
Monarch. Tree robust, an abundant bearer. Fruit large, roundish oval, dark purplish blue, perfect freestone. October.

Shropshire Damson. This largest of the Damson class is much used for preserving. The trees are vigorous and enormously productive. One of the old favorites. October. First Class, $\frac{3}{4}$ and up, 2 yr., 35c each; \$3.50 per 12; \$25.00 per 100. Select Medium, $\frac{5}{8}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$, 30c each; \$3.00 per 12; \$20.00 per 100.

Cherries

All budded on whole roots of imported French Mahaleb stock. They will not sprout. The cherry is so easily grown that it will produce good crops even with neglect on any situation except a low, damp soil. They usually commence bearing the third year after planting. No home orchard is complete without its proportion of cherry trees. It is one of the most profitable fruits. Better have too many than not enough, as the surplus finds ready sale at a good profit.

First Class, $\frac{3}{4}$ and up, 40c each; \$4.50 per 12; \$28.00 per 100. Select Medium, 35c each; \$4.00 per 12; \$22.00 per 100. Light Medium, 25c each; \$2.50 per 12; \$15.00 per 100.



Early Richmond. Everywhere the most popular. Tree strong, thrifty grower, making a large, symmetrical head; fruit medium size; red melting, juicy, of sprightly acid flavor. This is one of the most valuable and popular of the acid cherries; is unsurpassed for cooking purposes and exceedingly productive. Often fruits next year after planting. June.

Dyehouse. A very early and sure bearer. Ripens a week before Early Richmond. June.

Allen. Of excellent quality and large size. Nearly heart shaped. Shining and smooth. Color when ripe nearly black. Very meaty and firm, free from rot and disease. A strong, vigorous growing, productive variety. Ripens late in July.

Black Eagle. Large, tender, juicy, rich. July.

Black Tartarian. Very large, black, juicy, rich, excellent, productive. Last of June.

Gov. Wood. Large, light red, juicy, rich, delicious. Tree healthy and productive. June.

Napoleon. Large, pale yellow or red. Firm, juicy, sweet and productive. July.

Cook's Imperial. Very large. Color red, tree vigorous and productive. First of July.

Winsor. Fruit large, liver colored, flesh remarkably firm and of fine quality. Tree hardy and prolific. A valuable late variety. July.

Wragg. Very hardy, vigorous and productive, medium, dark purple, fine quality. August.

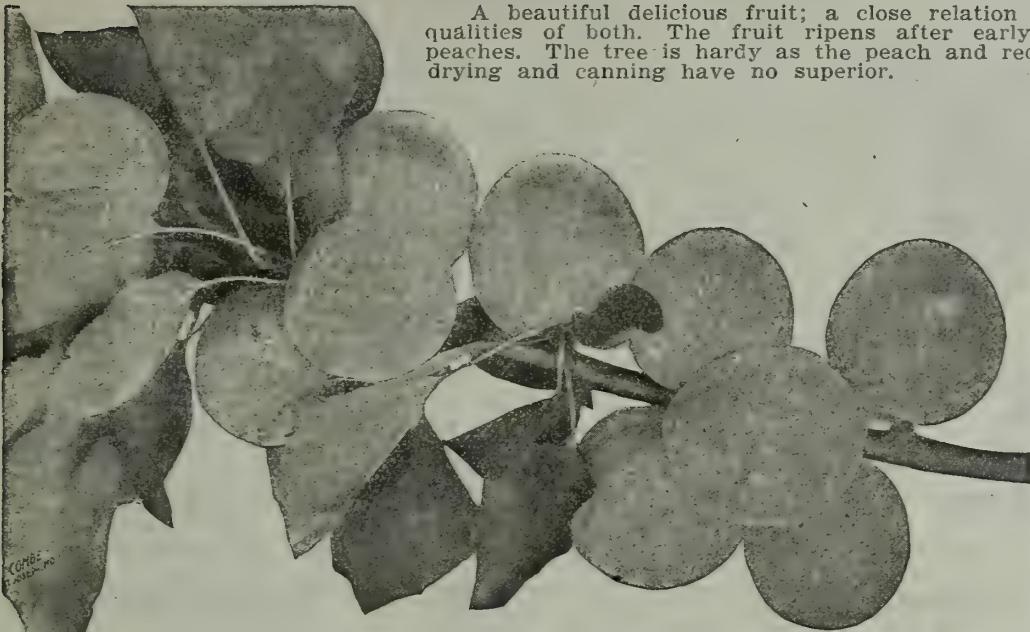
Baldwin. Large, round, slightly subacid, sweetest and richest of the Morello type. A fine, upright grower, remarkable for its earliness, hardiness and productiveness. June.

Large Mt. Morency. Large, red, productive. Ten days later than Early Richmond. Last of June.

May Duke. Large, red, juicy, rich. June.

Apricots

A beautiful delicious fruit; a close relation to the plum and peach, combining the qualities of both. The fruit ripens after early cherries and just before plums and peaches. The tree is hardy as the peach and requires the same cultivation. Apricots for drying and canning have no superior.



	Each.	Per dozen
5 to 7 ft.	\$0.40	\$4.00
4 to 5 ft. ....	.30	3.50

Alexander (Russian). Medium to small, light orange yellow, flecked with red; flesh tender, juicy, sweet and good quality; hardy; very productive. July.

Budd (Russian). Medium to large, light orange, with blush on sunny side; flesh sweet, juicy, with flavor of the peach; hardy and productive. August.

Early Golden. Small, roundish-oval; pale with smooth skin; flesh yellow, juicy, sweet and of the best quality, hardy and productive; freestone.

Harris. Large, oval, bright yellow, with red cheek; flesh tender, juicy, sweet and good; tree hardy, productive. Late July.

Mulberries

The mulberry is valued as an ornamental tree, and the fruit is quite popular. Should be planted in deep, rich sandy loam. Requires little care and is of easy culture. The fruit is sprightly and refreshing, and is a valuable addition to any fruit garden.

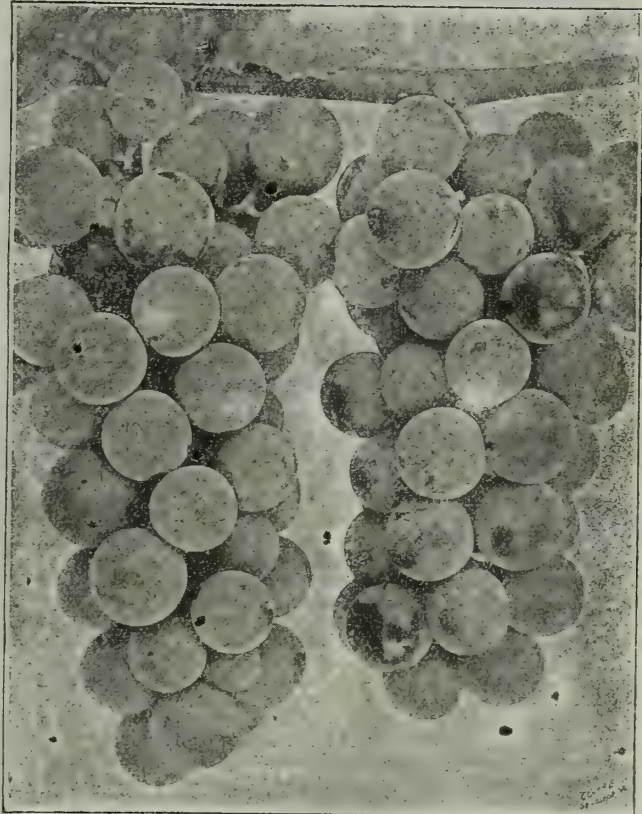
Price.	Each.	Per dozen
Downing's Everbearing, 4 to 5 ft.	\$0.30	\$2.75
Improved Russian, 4 to 5 ft. ....	.45	4.00

Grape Vines

One of the best, healthiest fruits we have. Grows in any kind of soil that is not wet; any side hill will do for a grape vineyard. Those who have only a lot or two or a small garden can plant them alongside a building or a fence. They will take up little room and will bear an abundance of fruit every year. They will stand a severe climate, and some varieties can be successfully raised as far north as North and South Dakota. Plant in rows eight feet apart and six feet in the row. We give below the best hardiest varieties for the West. Except where otherwise noted all grape vines are 2-year-old No. 1 extra heavy, well rooted plants.

PRICES ON GRAPES.

	One Year, No. 1			Two Years, No. 1.		
	Each	Per 10	Per 100	Each	Per 10	Per 100
Agawan	10	\$0.75	\$ 6.00	12	\$0.90	\$ 7.50
Brighton	10	.75	6.00	12	.90	7.50
Catawba	10	.75	6.00	12	.90	7.50
Champion	10	.75	6.00	12	.90	7.50
Concord	8	.60	5.00	10	.70	6.00
Campbell's Early	30	2.50	20.00	35	3.00	25.00
Delaware	12	.90	8.00	15	1.00	9.00
Diamond	20	1.75	15.00	35	2.00	17.00
Elvira	8	.60	5.00	10	.75	6.00
Eaton	12	.90	8.00	15	1.00	9.00
Green Mountain	20	1.75	15.00	25	2.00	17.50
McPike	35	3.00	22.50	40	3.50	27.50
Martha	10	.75	6.00	12	.90	7.00
Moon's Early	12	.90	7.50	15	1.00	8.50
Niagara	10	.75	6.00	12	.90	7.50
Vergenes	25	2.00	18.00	35	3.00	22.50
Worden	8	.60	5.00	10	.70	6.00
Wyoming	15	1.25	10.00	18	1.50	12.00
Woodruff	20	1.75	15.00	25	2.00	17.00



Blackberries

Should be planted in rows six to seven feet apart, three to five feet in rows. Keep the ground light and rich. Pinch the canes back when they have reached four feet in height.

Rathbun. Vigorous, branching, making plenty of fruitwood. Has stood 30 degrees below zero and bore a full crop the next summer. Roots sucker very little and must be propagated by layering the tips of the shoots. Berries are large, intensely black, with a high polish. Are firm, carry well to the market and retain their handsome appearance. Good for table use, canning or cooking. Is in all points fully as good or better than the old Wilson and much hardier.

Snyder. Extremely hardy, enormously productive, medium size; no hard core; only a few thorns and they are short; most prolific blackberry grown.

Stone's Hardy. Vigorous grower; berry glossy black and good flavor; a little later than Snyder.

Early Harvest. This is the earliest blackberry in cultivation; a compact, dwarf grower.

Eldorado. The vines are vigorous and hardy, enduring the winters of the Northwest without injury, and their yield is enormous. Berries large, jet black, borne in large clusters, and ripen well together. They are very sweet and pleasing to the taste, have no hard core, and a good keeper after picking. with quality unimpaired. Each, 10c; 50c per 12; \$2.00 per 100.

Wilson. A magnificent, large, early berry of sweet, excellent flavor. Ripens evenly, holds its color well, and brings highest market price. Strong grower, exceedingly productive. Each, 10c; 50c per 12; \$1.00 per 100; \$10.00 per 1,000. Each and dozen by mail, postpaid. Hundred and thousand by freight or express, not prepaid.

Should be planted in rows six to seven feet apart, three to five feet in the rows. Keep the ground light and rich. Pinch the canes back when they reach the height of two to three feet.

Raspberries

Raspberries do well on any soil that will produce a good corn crop. Land should be thoroughly prepared. Keep well cultivated and free from weeds. As soon as they have done bearing cut out the old wood, to give more vigor to the young canes. Plant in rows six to eight feet apart, and 3½ to four feet in rows for field culture.



Kansas.

Cumberland. The largest of all Black-caps. A healthy, vigorous grower, throwing up stout, stocky, well-branched canes that produce immense crops of berries. Fruit large, firm, quality the same as Gregg, keeps as well as any of the blacks. The most profitable market variety. On our farm this season they had as good a crop of fruit as ever. They were not hurt by the October freeze or winter, while the other varieties were badly damaged. Each, 10c; 50c per 12, \$1.00 per 100; \$8.00 per 1,000.

Gregg. For many years the leading standard, best known market sort; productive, large size, firm, meaty, covered with heavy fruit. Each 10c; 50c per 12; \$1.00 per 100; \$10.00 per 1,000.

Kansas. Strong, vigorous grower, standing extreme drouth and cold and bearing immense crops. Early ripening, after Palmer. Berries the size of Gregg, of better color, jet black and free from bloom, firm, of best quality, present a handsome appearance, and bring highest price in market. Each, 10c; 50c per 12; \$1.00 per 100; \$7.00 per 1,000.

Eureka (Cap) A fine blackcap in every particular. It is first early, very large and productive. Very profitable for market. Each, 10c; 50c per 12; \$1.00 per 100.

You will be surprised at the cash results from a comparatively small patch of raspberries when they are given reasonable care. An acre will usually turn more cash into the farmer's pocket than any other acre on the farm.

King. Pronounced the best early red raspberry by the leading horticulturists. Plant a strong grower, very hardy and productive. Berry firm. In size as large as Cuthbert. Beautiful bright scarlet color. Season a few days later than Thompson. We have fruited them and find them the best red raspberries on our farms. Each, 10c; 50c per 12; \$1.50 per 100; \$12.00 per 1,000.

Loudon. It succeeds well, one of the best red mid-season varieties. Hardy, good size and quality, productive. Each, 10c; 50c per 12; \$1.00 per 100; \$8.00 per 1,000.

Miller. Early, very hardy; does not winter kill. The best early variety. Shipping qualities perfect. Makes a healthy growth of cane. Very productive and good size. Each, 10c; 50c per 12; \$1.00 per 100; \$10.00 per 1,000.

Thompson's Early Prolific. This is the earliest red raspberry in fruiting. They are of good size, bright red, productive, good quality and the best shippers. Profitable on account of their earliness. Each, 10c; 50c per 12; \$1.00 per 100; \$10.00 per 1,000.

Cuthbert, or Queen of the Market. Remarkably strong, hardy. Stands the northern winters and southern summers equal to any. Berries very large, conical, rich crimson, very handsome and firm; they can be shipped hundreds of miles by rail in good condition. Flavor rich, sweet and luscious. The leading market variety for main crop. Each, 10c; 50c per 12; \$1.00 per 100; \$6.00 per 1,000.

Strawberries

Strawberries will succeed in any soil that is adapted to ordinary farm garden crops; soil should be thoroughly prepared to a good depth, well drained and enriched. In field culture set the rows from three to three and a half feet apart, fifteen to eighteen inches in rows. For garden fifteen inches apart each way. Ground should be kept clean and well cultivated. In winter a covering of leaves, straw or some kind of litter will protect the plants. Do not cover until ground is frozen, or so deep as to smother the plants; remove covering before growth starts in spring. The blossoms of those marked with a (p) are destitute of stamens, and are termed pistillate, and unless a row of perfect flowering variety is planted at intervals not exceeding a rod they will produce imperfect fruit, and but little of it, but when properly fertilized they are more prolific than those with perfect flowers. Our stock is pure, each kind kept by itself, cultivated entirely for the production of plants; they are carefully graded and packed, and certainly give the best of satisfaction.

Baldwin's Pride of Michigan. We place this variety first on our list because this is where it should be. It's the best thing we have. Baldwin's Pride of Michigan is, without doubt, the best and most profitable variety of strawberry ever introduced in the United States. Will outyield any other strawberry. Last year many of you were disappointed in not being able to get our Pride of Michigan. We were sold out early and could have sold nearly two hundred thousand more if we had had the plants.

Clyde. A strong growing, perfect blooming healthy plant, with light green foliage. Everywhere tested it proved to be exceedingly productive, of large, globular, perfectly formed, always inclined to overbear. Some plants have more fruit stalks than leaf stalks. A light application of nitrate of soda, in early spring before fruiting will stimulate greater foliage growth, and so help the fruiting of this remarkable variety.

Crescent. (P). A standard of productiveness all over the country; succeeds everywhere. Stands neglect best of any; plant small, berries fair size, bright and attractive. Not very firm. Many growers consider this the most profitable berry for market.

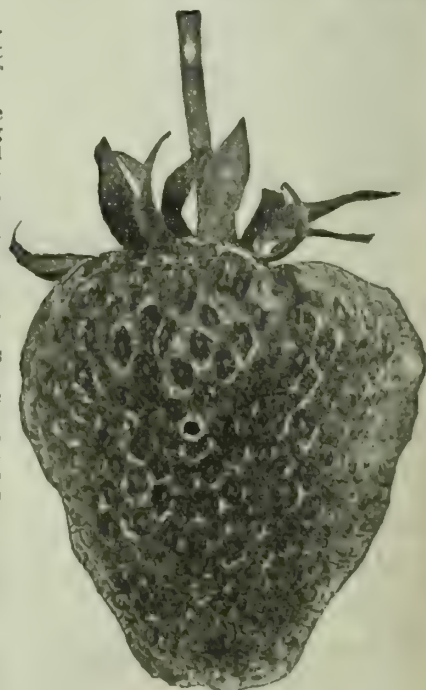
Senator Dunlap. A well tested, wonderfully productive variety, one of the safe sorts to plant everywhere and sure to take a high place among the prominent standard sorts, plant resembles Warfield, rampant runner, should be restricted in its production of plants; fully equal to Crescent and Warfield in its ability to succeed under all circumstances. Fruit good size, regular form, beautiful bright red, glossy, firm, splendid keeper and shipper, excellent quality, one of the best for canning. Ripens early, and continues a long time. It promises to stand at the head in its wonderful ability to ripen a good crop under almost any condition of drouth or neglect.

Glen Mary. Berries large to very large, often flattened, bright deep red on surface; light red to center. Sweet, rich, good flavor. Season medium to late. One of the most productive and holds its size well to the end of the season. Plants very vigorous, and one of the best for home use and nearby market.

Warfield. (P). Its great beauty, firmness and earliness, good flavor, productiveness and vigor makes it especially popular. Ripens with Senator Dunlap, which makes a good fertilizer to plant with it, as the shape and color of the berries are the same, and look a great deal alike when picked together.

	Per 12	Per 100	Per 1000		Per 12	Per 100	Per 1000
Myer's Seedling	\$.40	\$1.50	\$10.00	Haverland (P)	.25	.60	5.00
Pride of Michigan	.40	1.00	8.00	Michel's Early	.25	.60	4.80
Lovetts	.25	.60	4.50	Pocomoke	.25	.60	4.80
Aroma	.25	.60	5.00	Senator Dunlap	.25	.60	5.00
Reder Wood	.25	.60	5.00	Sample (P)	.25	.60	4.75
Bubach (P)	.25	.60	5.00	Tennessee Prolific	.25	.50	4.60
Barton's Eclipse (P)	.25	.60	5.00	Uncle Jim	.25	.60	5.00
Clyde	.25	.60	5.00	Warfield (P)	.25	.50	4.50
Crescent (P)	.25	.50	4.50	Wm. Belt	.25	.60	5.00
Glen Mary	.25	.60	5.00				

Six of variety at dozen, twenty-five at hundred, and two hundred fifty at thousand rates. At dozen rates we pay postage, at 100 rates, to go by mail, add 25 cents to each 100. At 100 and 1,000 rates to go by express or freight, charges to be paid by the purchaser. If you want a large number of strawberry plants write us for special prices.



Senator Dunlap.

Currants

Hardy, easily cultivated, standing neglect well, and liberally responding to cultivation and generous treatment; indispensable for jellies, table use, etc. No garden is complete without them, and large quantities are required for market. Set four feet apart in rich ground, cultivate well, or mulch heavily; prune out old wood so that each remaining shoot will have room to grow. If the currant worm appears dust with helebore.

Cherry. Berries sometimes one-half inch in diameter, bunches short. Vigorous and productive when grown on good soil and well cultivated.

Fay's Prolific. The leading market variety. Extra large stems and berries. Uniform size, easily picked, exceedingly productive; no variety ever made as quick a jump in popular favor, the demand being, in most seasons, in excess of the supply.

Victoria. Large, light red, bunches extremely long. Berries medium size of excellent quality. Ripens late.

Red Dutch. An old well known sort. Good quality, berry medium, long bunch, very productive.

White Grape. Very large, yellowish white; sweet or very mild acid. Excellent quality and valuable for table. Very productive.

Lee's Prolific. This is a black currant; extra quality, strong grower. Productive.

Wilder. One of the strongest growers and most productive. Bunch and berries very large; bright, attractive red color, even when dead ripe. Hangs on the bushes in fine condition for handling, as late as any known variety. Compared with the celebrated Fay's, it is equal in size, with longer bunches; better in quality, with much less acidity. Ripens at same time, continues on bush much longer, fully as prolific, in some trials, largely outyielding it.

London Market. For many years this variety has been fruiting in Michigan, where it is now planted extensively and regarded as the best market variety of that great fruit state. Plant is extremely us, with perfect foliage which it retains through the season, an enormous cropper. Ripens with Victoria, is larger in both bunch and berry, a better bearer. For any use—home garden or market—one of the best.

North Star. The strongest grower among the red varieties; should be given plenty of room and ground kept well enriched; bunches average four inches in length and are freely produced. Combines extreme hardiness, vigorous growth, extra quality and great productiveness.

Perfection. Berries are a beautiful bright red and larger than Fay's Prolific. In quality it is said to be superior to anything in the market today; rich, mild, subacid flavor, with plenty of pulp and few seeds, clusters are long and size of berry is maintained to the end.

PRICE OF CURRANTS.

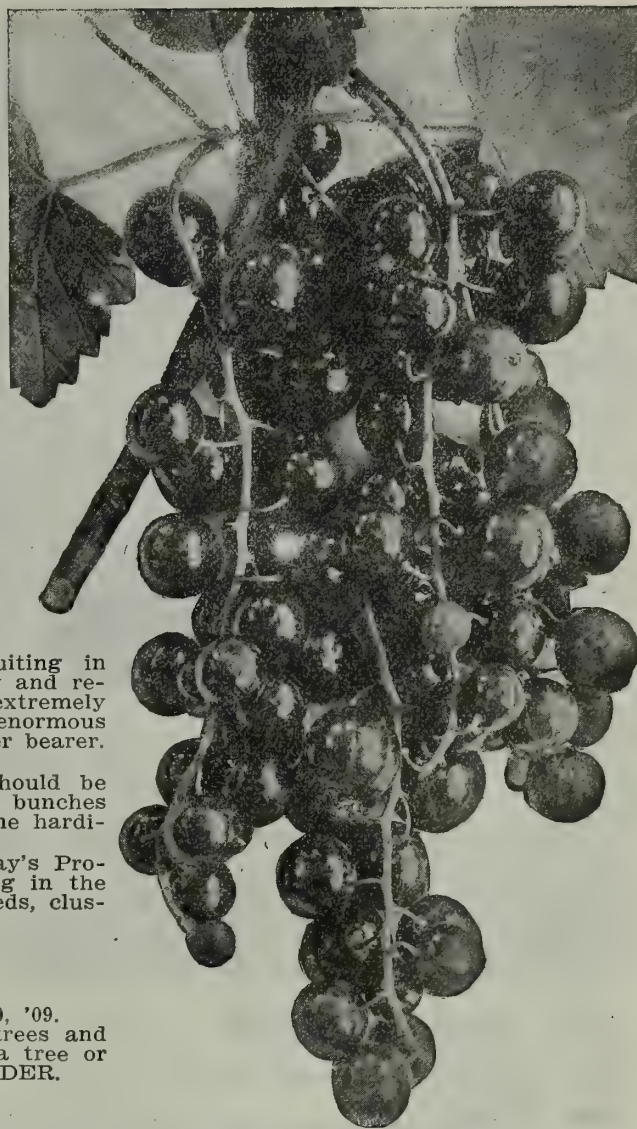
2 yr., No. 1, 15c each; \$1.50 per 12; \$4.00 per 100.

1 yr., No. 1, 10c each; \$1.00 per 12; \$3.00 per 100.

Pocatello, Idaho, Sept. 10, '09.

I am pleased to report that all the nursery stock, including fruit trees and shrubbery I ordered from you last spring has done well. Did not lose a tree or shrub. Please send me your fall catalogue and oblige,

HENRY FIELDER.



Perfection Currant.

Dewberries

Lucretia. One of the low growing, trailing blackberries. In size and quality it equals any of the tall growing sorts. Perfectly hardy, healthy and remarkably productive. The fruit, which ripens early, is often one and one-half inches long, by one inch in diameter. Soft, sweet and luscious throughout, with no hard core. Ripens before late raspberries are gone. Should be mulched to keep berries from ground. We can highly recommend this variety. Plants are grown from tips the same as black raspberries, plants set in rows six feet apart, three to four feet in rows. In spring cut back wood from twelve to sixteen inches. Each, 10c; 50c per 12; \$1.25 per 100; \$10.00 per 1,000.

Austin's Improved (Mayes). An early dewberry of excellent quality and large yield. Berries large, short and thick; canes vigorous, hardy and productive. Ripens fully a week earlier than Lucretia, and for this reason is valuable to grow in connection with that variety. Each, 10c; 50c per 12; \$1.25 per 100; \$10.00 per 1,000.

Premo. This remarkable new dewberry is a sport from the grand old Lucretia. The great profitableness of the Lucretia with many growers has been because it was the earliest of the blackberry family to ripen. Now we have Premo, still earlier and larger; that means extra money in the market and an earlier taste of the delicious dewberries for the family. Premo has imperfect flowers, and so in planting every third or fourth row should be of Lucretia; or better yet, where one is equally fond of both varieties, they can be planted in alternate rows. Remember that Premo is a delicious, great blackberry that begins to ripen when the raspberry season is half over. Each, 10c; 50c per 12; \$1.25 per 100; \$10.00 per 1,000.

Asparagus

No garden is too small to have a bed of this earliest and finest of spring vegetables. Prepare ground by trenching to depth of two feet, mixing each layer of soil as turned over with two or three inches of well rotted manure. This is one of the most profitable crops to grow, and one that is easily handled. A field well planted will last a lifetime. Plant rows from three to four feet apart, twelve to fifteen inches apart in a row. Do not cut for use until the plants have grown two seasons.

Palmetto. This is a new sort, which is becoming quite popular. It produces shoots of the very largest size. It is very early, which makes it very valuable for market or home use. 2 years, 30c per 12; \$1.00 per 100; \$6.00 per 1,000. 1 year, 25c per 12; 75 per 100; \$5.00 per 1,000. Send for special prices in large lots of several thousand.

Conover's Colossal. A standard variety of large size, tender and of excellent quality. 2 years, 30c per 12; \$1.00 per 100; \$6.00 per 1,000. 1 year, 25c per 12; 75 per 100; \$5.00 per 1,000. Send for special prices in large lots of several thousand.

Rhubarb or Pie Plant

A deep, rich soil is indispensable to secure large, heavy stalks. Plant in rows four feet apart, with the plant three feet distant. Set so that the crowns are an inch below the surface. Top-dress annually in the fall with stable manure and fork under in the spring.

Queen. Strong, vigorous grower, producing extra large stalks of finest quality, of a decided pink color. For canning or cooking in any way its quality is unsurpassed. Each, 10c; dozen, 75c; one hundred, \$4.00.

Myatt's Linnaeus. Popular, and the best for general use. Early, very large, productive, tender and delicately flavored. Requires less sugar than other sorts. Each, 10c; dozen, 75c; one hundred, \$4.00.

Horseradish

Fine, large, thick roots may be grown in a single season. A valuable garden plant, easy to grow, and used on meats is a splendid appetizer. The tops are used in early spring for greens. Per dozen, 20c; per 100, \$3.00.



Catalpa Bungei.



WHILE most people appreciate well-arranged and well-kept grounds, large or small, many fail to realize that they can have equally fine grounds. They have tried a few shrubs or roses, perhaps, growing in thick turf, with no attention given to pruning or cultivating. Under such circumstances good results cannot be expected.

Aside from the pleasure of having fine trees, shrubs, vines and flowers in the grounds surrounding a home few realize how much these add to the commercial value of a place. A purchaser having to decide between a house with bare, unkempt grounds, and one surrounded by fine ornaments, invariably chooses the latter at a marked advance in price, because he sees that he will at once enjoy what it would otherwise take years to secure. Sagacious men are led by a knowledge of these facts to plant fine trees and shrubs about vacant lots they intend to put on the market. Lots thus planted readily secure purchasers at good prices, when bare grounds go begging.

HOW TO PLANT.

Do not make the mistake of planting at random. A fine, well-cut lawn is one of the handsomest features of a place. Trees may be planted along a lane or avenue leading to the house, or dotted about the lawn on lines radiating from it. This will secure light and air, with good views. When practicable upright shrubs and roses should be planted in beds, each class by itself, about the borders of the grounds. These beds should be well cultivated, and the plants annually pruned. When the growth of the plants has made them very thick some should be taken out. It will not do to plant so little that years must elapse before a fine effect will be produced. A surplus should be planted at first, and this gradually taken out. Vines should be planted near to and allowed to climb upon and about the house, or they may be trained on posts, arbors or stakes, placed in suitable locations on the lawn.

This department of our business is extensive. Avenue and park trees are cultivated in large blocks, shrubs and small growing trees cover many acres and thousands of rows contain the more delicate shrubs and herbaceous plants. To people desirous of laying out or beautifying their grounds we estimate on large or small places. In ordering we suggest purchasing with

would be glad to furnish plans, suggestions and a view to color effect and groupings. The results are most gratifying when trees and shrubs of colors that blend harmoniously are planted in clumps, softening sharp turns, cutting off unsightly views or leaving long, clear vistas through the lawn.

All our trees are grown under a thorough, clean system of cultivation, frequently transplanted, and are well supplied with an abundance of fibrous roots, which enables them to bear transplanting well. Do not be deceived into planting forest-grown trees, for disappointment follows ninety-nine plantings in every 100. In many varieties we have large specimen trees, which are not quoted herein. Prices on these will be cheerfully given on application. For hardiness and quick growth we especially recommend the Catalpa Speciosa, Silver or Soft Maple and Carolina, Lombardy and Silver Poplars.

Special Note—We can supply all sizes in ornamental trees, thus those desiring trees for parks, cemeteries, etc., or in large quantities should write for special quotations. Prices quoted are for trees on board cars at nursery, and freight or express, to be paid by purchaser. Six can be had at dozen prices, 50 at 100 rates, 500 at 1,000 rates.

Ash, American White. A valuable native variety of rapid growth, forming straight, clean trunks and broad, oval shaped heads. Desirable for parks, public grounds and street planting; also for timber and forestry purposes. Four to 6 ft., each 35c; doz., \$3.50; 100, \$25.00; 6 to 8 ft., each, 50c; doz., \$5.00; 100, \$35.00; 8 to 10 ft., each, 65c; doz., \$7.00; 100, \$45.00.

Box Elder. See Maple, Ash Leaved.

Birch, European White. A distinct, native species of vigorous, rapid growth. Bark white, triangular, tapering and pointing. It is very hardy and will grow in sandy or rocky soil in any situation. of easy culture and makes a beautiful shade and ornamental tree. **PRICE:** Three to 4 ft., each 25c; doz., \$2.50; 100, \$18.00; 4 to 6 ft., each, \$35c; doz., \$3.50; 100, \$25.00.

Catalpa (Speciosa). This hardy native variety is one of the finest for shade and ornament in our entire list. The leaves are large, heart-shaped, beautifully ribbed, never subject to the attacks of insects, and at all times clean, vigorous and beautiful. **PRICE:** Three to 4 ft., each, 25c; doz., \$2.50; 4 to 6 ft., each, 35c; doz., \$3.50.

Chinese Catalpa (C. Bungei). A remarkable species, forming a dense, round umbrella-like head; makes a beautiful lawn tree when grafted or budded on a high stem. Price, same as Speciosa.

Elm, American. This is well known and thrives in any soil. **PRICE:** Four to 6 ft., each 20c; doz., \$2.25; 100, \$15.00; 6 to 8 ft., each, 35c; doz., \$3.50; 100, \$25.00; 8 to 10 ft., each, 50c; doz., \$5.00; 100, \$10.00; 10 to 12 ft., each, 75c; doz., \$7.50; 100, \$60.00.

Cottonwood, Canadian Poplar. A tall, native tree, with large shining leaves, growing eighty to 100 feet high. **PRICE:** Four to 6 ft., each, 25c; doz., \$2.50; 6 to 8 ft., each, 35c; doz., \$3.50; 100, \$15.00; 8 to 10 ft., each, 50c; doz., \$5.00; 100, \$25.00; 10 to 12 ft., each, 60c; doz., \$6.00; 10, \$35.00.

Flowering Crab, Bechtel's. Makes a medium sized tree, perfectly hardy, succeeds well in all soils not extremely wet. When in bloom appears to be covered with delicate pink, perfect double small roses, of delicious fragrance, the only sweet-scented double crab. **PRICE:** Each, 3 to 4 ft., 75c; 4 to 5 ft., \$1.00.

Linden, European. Similar to the American Linden. **PRICE:** Four to 6 ft., each, 35c; doz., \$3.50; 6 to 8 ft., each, 60c; doz., \$6.50; 8 to 10 ft., each, 75c; doz., \$8.00.

Linden, American (Basswood). Perfectly hardy everywhere, most vigorous in growth, with large, clean, handsome foliage, affording an abundance of shade and forming large, stately trees in a short time.

Nut Trees

American Sweet Chestnut. This is a valuable native tree, both useful and ornamental. Timber is very durable, and possesses a fine grain for oil finish. Nut sweet, of delicious flavor, and are a valuable article of commerce. Each, 6 to 8 feet, trees, 50c; dozen, \$5.00; 3 to 4 feet, trees, 30c; dozen, \$2.50.

Filberts. Of easy culture. Growing 6 to 8 feet. Entirely hardy, and one of the most profitable and satisfactory nuts to grow. Succeeds on almost all soils, bearing early and abundantly. Nuts nearly round. Rich and excellent flavor. Admirable for dessert. Each, 6 to 8 feet, 40c; dozen, \$4.00.

Butternuts. A fine native tree, producing a large, longish nut, which is prized for its sweet, oily, nutritious kernel. Each, 6 to 8 feet, trees, 50c; dozen, \$5.00; 3 to 4 feet, 30c; dozen, \$3.00.

Walnuts, Black. A native tree of large size and majestic form. Beautiful foliage, and most valuable of all trees for its timber, which enters largely into manufacture of fine furniture and cabinet ware, and brings the highest price in market. Tree a rapid grower, producing a large round nut of excellent quality. Each, 6 to 8 feet, trees, 50c; dozen, \$5.00; 3 to 4 feet, 30c; dozen, \$3.00.

Walnut, Japan Sieboldi. Perfectly hardy, rapid grower, handsome form, immense leaves; bears young and abundantly; one of the finest ornamental trees. Nuts produced in clusters; resembles butter-nut in shape and quality; smaller, with smooth and thinner shell. Worthy of extensive planting. Each, 4 to 6 feet, 50c; dozen, \$5.00.

Weeping Deciduous Trees

The different varieties of "weeping" or pendulous trees make attractive and graceful ornaments to the landscape, and add much beauty to a planting of shrubbery, breaking up the stiff lines of deciduous or evergreen trees, and making a most pleasing variation. They are often used as single specimens on the lawn with marked effect. In our list will be found all of the kinds which we deem particularly attractive. Customers will, however, be saved from disappointment if they will realize that it is impossible to deliver them from the nursery with the form and shape which they will attain with age. It can no more be done than fruit trees could be delivered with the fruit on.

Mulberry (Teas' Weeping Russian). One of the most graceful and beautiful of the hardy, weeping tree, and wholly unique, having a perfect umbrella shaped head and slender willow branches. The foliage is glossy green and with delicacy of form and motion it combines Russian health and vigor. **PRICE:** Five to 6-foot, 1 year head, each, \$1.00; dozen, \$10.00. Five to 6-foot, 2 year, head, each \$1.25; dozen, \$12.00.

Camperdown Weeping Elm. Its vigorous branches, which have a uniform habit, overlap so regularly that a compact root-like head is formed. Leaves are large, glossy dark green. A strong, vigorous grower. One of the best weeping trees. It can be trained to form an arbor if desired. The peculiar characteristics of this tree make it very popular and valuable for the lawn. Hardy everywhere and not particular as to soil. With age the weeping branches will eventually sweep the ground, and enclose a shady place as effectively as an arbor. This tree thrives splendidly in our state. Grafted 6 feet high. **PRICE:** \$1.00 each.

Mountain Ash, Weeping. A beautiful tree of hardy, vigorous growth with straggling, pendent branches, turning and twisting in all directions, in a few years forming an immense head, with branches resting on the ground, and producing a very pleasant effect. Six to 7-foot, 1 year head, each, 75c; dozen, \$7.50.

Beech. Purple leaved; makes an elegant medium size tree for the lawn. The foliage in the spring is a deep purple, later changing to crimson, and in autumn a dull purplish green. Each, three to four feet, \$1.50.

Birch, Cut-Leaf, Weeping. One of the most elegant of all weeping or pendulous trees. Its tall, slender yet vigorous growth, graceful, drooping habit, silvery white bark and delicately cut foliage presents a combination of attractive characteristics rarely met with in a single tree. Each, 3 to 4 feet, \$1.00.

Willow (Golden). A showy variety, with golden bark, of high color, making it very conspicuous during the winter; a handsome tree at all seasons. Each, 6 to 8 feet, 50c.

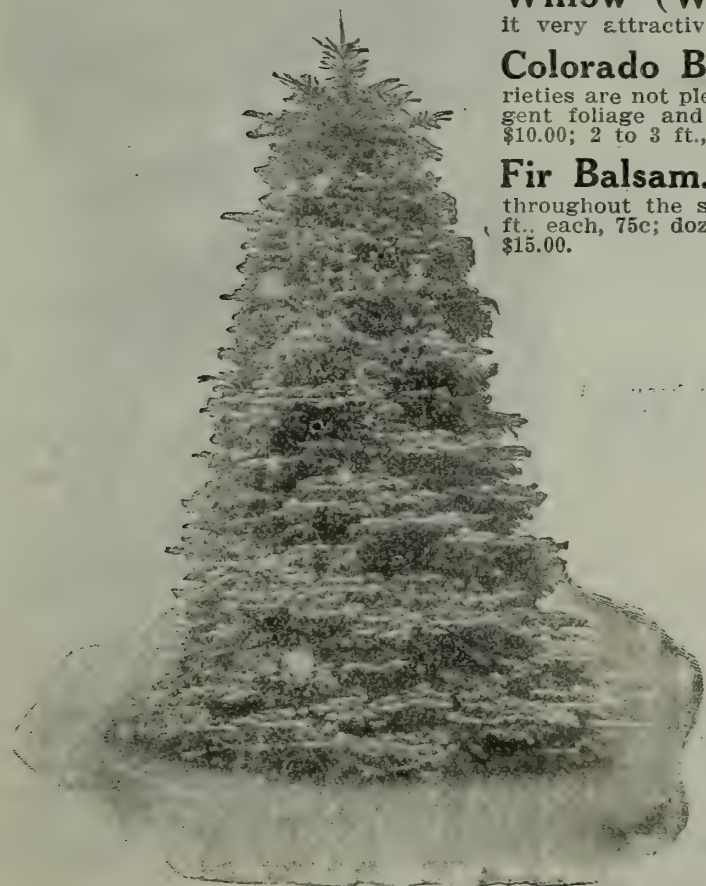
Willow (Weeping). A showy variety, most graceful tree of large size. Its fresh, bright green tint and long, wavy branches make it very attractive. Each, 6 to 8 feet, 50c.

Colorado Blue Spruce. Few trees are as much sought for as this. Large quantities are sold, but the really silver-blue varieties are not plentiful. The tree forms a dense, pyramidal specimen, with stiff, pungent foliage and clusters of cones. Hardy. Eighteen to 24-inch, each, \$1.00; doz., \$10.00; 2 to 3 ft., each, \$2.00; doz., \$20.00; 3 to 4 ft., each, \$3.00; doz., \$30.00.

Fir Balsam. A well known and popular tree, assuming the upright or conical form, foliage dark green above, silvery beneath; retains its color throughout the severest winters. Eighteen to 24-inch, each, 40c; doz., \$4.00; 2 to 3 ft., each, 75c; doz., \$7.50; 4 to 5 ft., each, \$1.00; doz., \$10.00; 5 to 6 ft., each, \$1.50; doz., \$15.00.



Teas' Weeping Mulberry.



Colorado Blue Spruce.



Weeping Willow.

Evergreens

Hemlock Spruce. An evergreen of great value. Hardy and of quick growth. Easy to move and quick to recover after transplanting. Highly ornamental, good for hedges and screens. In fact, are the best hedge trees obtainable. We quote for strictly high grade single specimens. Each, 3 feet, \$1.00; \$10.00 per 12; 4 feet, \$1.50; \$15.00 per 12. Ask for prices of seedlings in 100 and 1,000 lots.

Spruce (Norway). A lofty elegant tree of perfect pyramidal habit, remarkably elegant and rich; as it gets age has fine, graceful, pendulous branches; it is exceedingly picturesque and beautiful. Very popular, and deservedly so, and should be largely planted. One of the best evergreens for hedges. Each, 12 to 15 inches, 15c; \$10.00 per 100; 1½ to 2 feet, 25c; \$2.00 per 100.

Deciduous Hedge Plants

California Privet. A species of unusual beauty that has become the most popular of all hedge plants. For groups and specimens it is equally pretty, and its shining leaves give it value for porch and terrace decoration when grown in standard form. Can be sheared to any desirable shape. Per 100, \$6.00.

Osage Orange. One year, per 1,000, \$3.50; 2-year, per 1,000, \$4.00.

Barberry. The green leaved Barberry is rapid in growth, and soon produces wood enough with a little shearing to make a good hedge. The branches are covered with thorns, and for this reason it can be used both as a hedge and a barrier to cattle and other stock. After the leaves have fallen in the fall its branches are covered with bright red berries. Per 100, \$6.00.

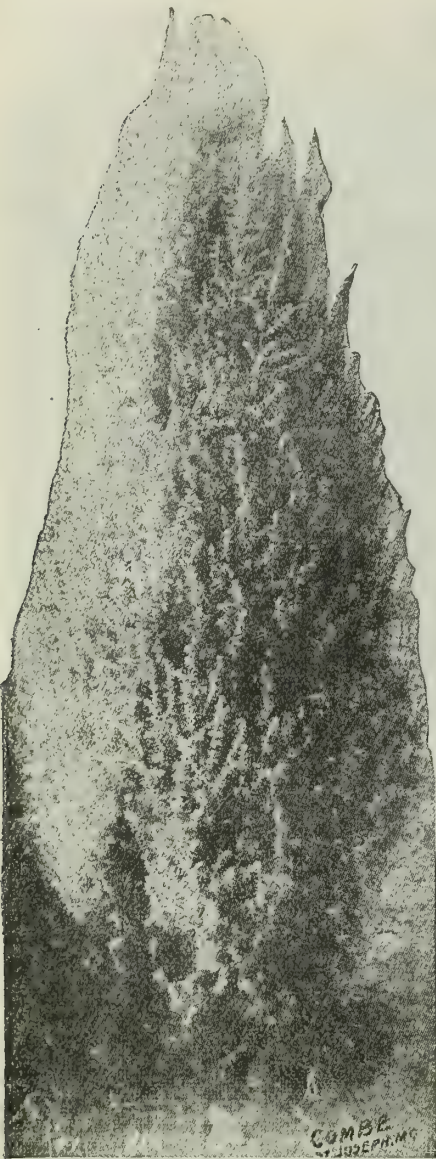
Arbor Vitae One of the finest evergreens for hedges. It grows rapidly and soon forms a beautiful hedge. Very dense. Of course it is not adapted to turn stock, but it forms a desirable and ornamental screen to divide the lawn from other parts of the grounds, or for any other purpose. Each, 10 to 15 inches, 15c; \$1.50 per 12; \$10.00 per 100; 1½ to 2 feet, 25c; \$2.25 per 12; \$18.00 per 100.

Pyramidal Arbor Vitae.

A superb, new and hardy sort, of very compact habit, like the Irish Juniper. Is rare and beautiful, and is largely planted in cemeteries. This is perhaps the most valuable Arbor Vitae in cultivation. Its extreme hardiness and adaptability to all soils make it a satisfactory tree for practical purposes where a tall formal tree is desired. Each, 2 feet, 50c; \$5.00 per 12; 3 feet, \$1.00; \$10.00 per 12; 4 feet, \$1.50; \$15.00 per 12.

Juniper (Virginian) (Red Cedar). A well known American tree, with deep green foliage. Makes a fine ornamental hedge. Each, 1½ to 2 feet, 40c; small one year plants, 3 to 4 inches high, \$4.00 per hundred.

Juniper (Irish). Erect and formal in habit. Foliage deep green and very compact, making a splendid column, fifteen to twenty feet high;



Irish Juniper.

much used in cemeteries. Each, 15 to 18 inches, 40c; 1½ to 2 feet, 50c.

Trees Recommended for Various Purposes.

FOR STREETS. American Elm, Sugar and Silver Maple, Carolina Poplar, Norway Maple.

FOR DRIVEWAYS. Norway Maple, Catalpa Speciosa, American Linden, Horse Chestnut.

SINGLE SPECIMENS for Large Growth. Birches (particularly Cut-leaf Weeping), American Linden, Norway, Purple Norway, Sycamore and Cut-leaf Maples, Horse Chestnut, Austrian, White and Scotch Pines, Norway and Colorado Spruces.

SINGLE SPECIMENS OF MEDIUM GROWTH—Horse Chestnut, Ash, Flowering Thorn, Hemlocks, White Pines, etc.

Hardy Climbing Vines

Ornamentals of this class are so hardy, so easily grown, and so beautiful that they deserve greater attention than they receive. No artist can produce pictures equal to the wealth of beauty displayed by the elegant Wistaria, the graceful Honeysuckle, or the charming and magnificent Clematis when in the glory of full bloom, and there is nothing in art that will in any degree compare with the gorgeous autumnal hues of the Ampelopsis.

AMPELOPSIS.

VIRGINIA CREEPER, OR AMERICAN IVY.

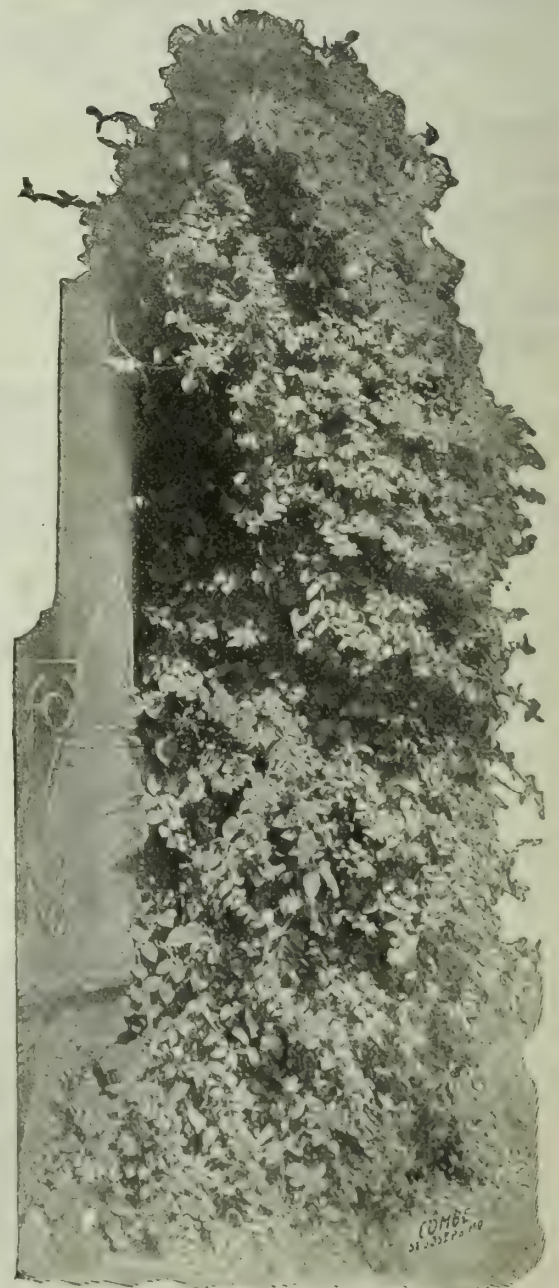
A. Quinquifolia. A native vine of rapid growth, with large, luxuriant foliage, which in autumn assumes the most gorgeous crimson and purple coloring. Each, 25c.

A. Veitchii. Japan. Leaves a little smaller and more ivy-like in form than the foregoing. Overlapping each other they form a dense sheet of green. It grows rapidly and clings to the surface of even a painted brick wall with great tenacity. The foliage is especially handsome in summer, changing to scarlet. Each, 25c.

Hall's Japan. Excellent for covering trellises, dry banks, fences, etc., giving dense, almost evergreen foliage. Has very fragrant yellow flowers, in constant succession. The best. Each, 25c.

Scarlet Trumpet. One of the showiest honeysuckles, with long, tubular, crimson flowers, in bunches during the summer, followed by ornamental scarlet berries. Each, 25c.

Monthly Fragrant. Flowers red and pale yellow. Sweet scented during the summer. Each, 25c.



Hall's Japan Honeysuckle.

Climbing Vines

CLEMATIS.

The different varieties and species of Clematis now in cultivation are of the highest beauty and utility. They vary greatly in their foliage and flowers, and are adapted to various uses. Some of them, such as our *C. paniculata* from Japan, are very fragrant and are particularly attractive on this account. The large flowered varieties, like the well known *C. Jackmani*, are extremely showy and produce great numbers of their beautiful flowers.

These plants are trained on trellises, and over porches and pillars. All are hardy, of easy growth, and will adapt themselves to nearly or quite all soils.

Of all the vines used, either for shade or decoration, none can compare with the Clematis in its many and varied forms. While the large flowered kinds are not so good for shade until they attain considerable age their wealth of bloom makes them the grandest embellishments to the porch known.

C. Paniculata. The most rapid grower of its class. This new Clematis, a native of Japan, has proven entirely hardy, no climbing plant possesses its hardiness and vigor of flowering qualities. Very fragrant, foliage beautiful dark green. Each, 50c.

C. Madam Ed. Andre. Nearest approach to bright red, a distinct crimson red; very free bloomer. Each, 50c.

C. Henryi. Fine, large, creamy white flowers. One of the best of the white varieties; a perpetual bloomer. Each, 50c.

C. Ramona. A strong, rapid grower and very hardy. Flowers very large, color a deep sky blue. Each, 50c.

WISTARIA.

American (*W. Frutescens*). A smaller, more slender form than the Chinese, with smaller clusters of purple flowers. Each, 25c.

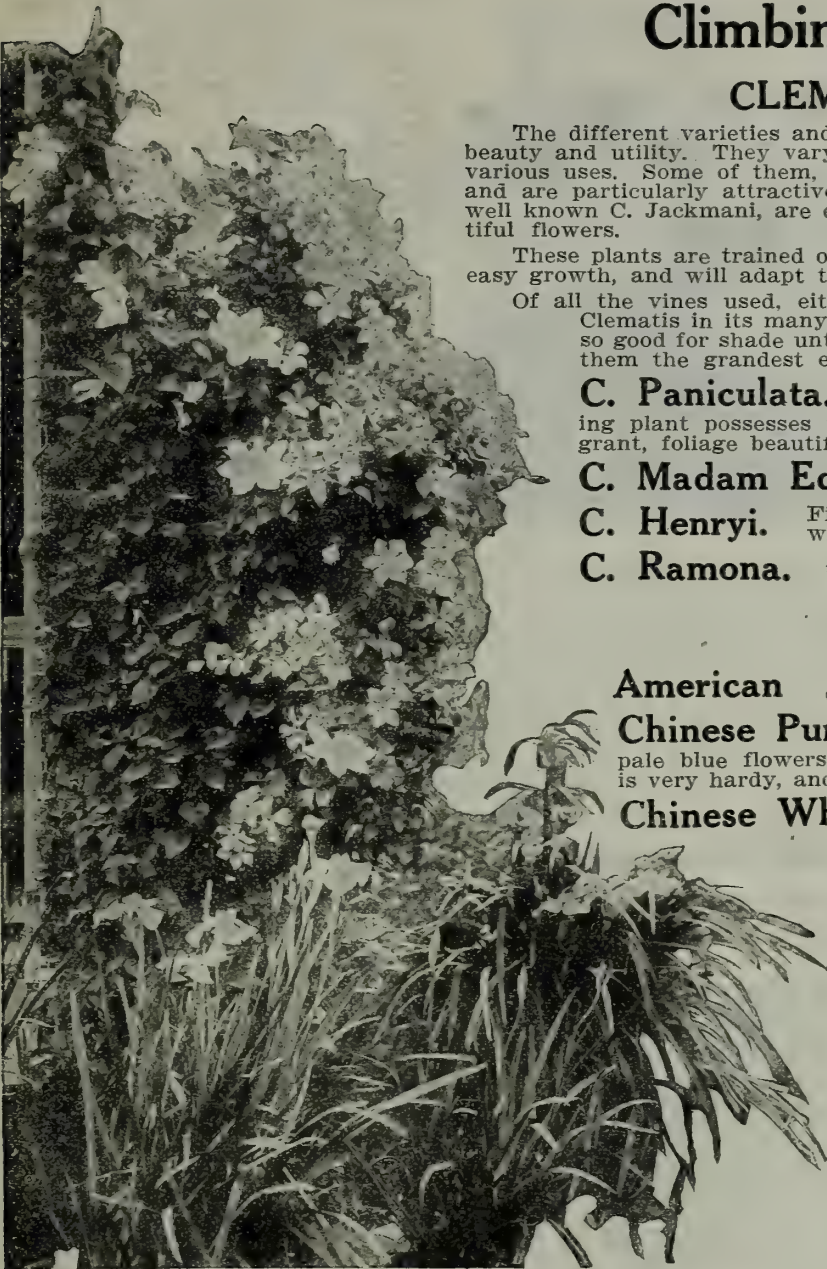
Chinese Purple (*W. Sinesis*). The most beautiful climber of rapid growth, and producing long, pendulous clusters of pale blue flowers. When well established makes an enormous growth. It is very hardy, and one of the most superb vines ever introduced. Each, 25c.

Chinese White (*W. Cinensis Alba*). Introduced by Mr. Fortune, from China, and regarded as one of his greatest acquisitions. Each 25c.

Hardy Ornamental Shrubs

Nothing adds more to the beauty of a place than to have the sides and background well filled with nicely arranged groups of shrubbery. Until seen one cannot appreciate the effect that can be brought out by properly arranging and grouping the wonderful assortment of foliage ranging in color from the darkest green and purple to light orange and silver tan. Added to this the great variety in blossoms unite to keep up a never-failing interest. If you do not know how to arrange them let us help you.

Almond, Double Flowering. A desirable class of early flowering shrub. Each 25c.



Clematis Jackmani.

Althea (Rose of Sharon). Showy, beautiful flowering shrub. Flowers large, very brilliant and of striking colors. Blooms freely in August and September, when few shrubs are in flower. Prevailing colors are rose, white, variegated, blue and purple. Hardy. Each, 30c.

Hydrangea (*Paniculata Grandiflora*). Probably the most popular of all shrubs. Blooms in August and September, when we have few shrubs in bloom. Flowers are white, borne in pyramidal panicles, often a foot in length. Excellent alike for masses or for single specimens. Each, 35c; \$5.00 per 12.

Tree Shaped Hydrangea. These are fine specimen plants, four to five years old, trained to tree shape, with about three feet of straight stem and nicely shaped heads. Should bloom profusely the first year. Before shipping they are trimmed the proper length for planting, so that they will make a better growth and larger flowers. Each, 50c; \$5.00 per 12.

Lilac (Purple and White). Each, 2 to 3 ft., 25c; \$2.00 per 12; 3 to 4 ft., 30c; \$2.50 per 12.

Persian Lilac. Each, 40c; \$2.50 per 12.

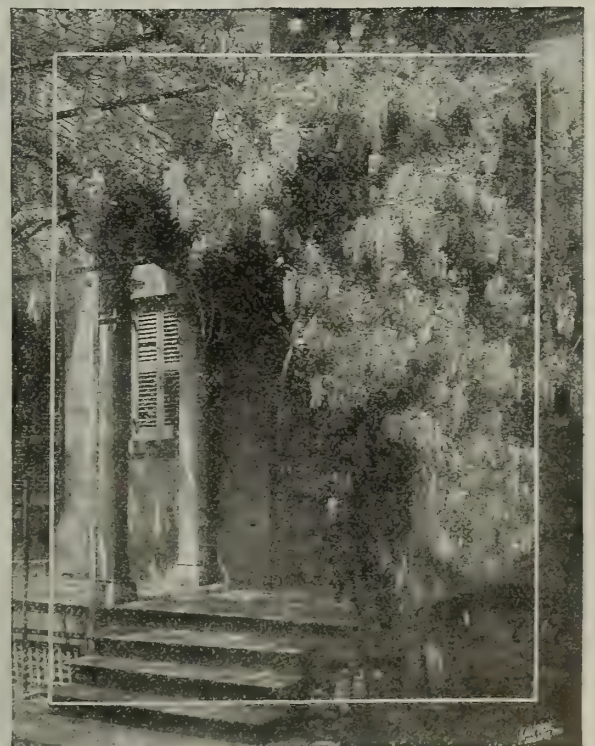
Purple Fringe (Smoke Bush). A conspicuous shrub or small tree with large leaves. These are overhung in mid-summer by cloud-like masses of very light mist-like flowers, having the appearance of smoke at a distance. Each, 2 to 3 feet, 30c; 3 to 4 feet, 40c.

Snowball. A fine shrub or bush. Flowers very large and showy. Blooms early. Borne in clusters of five or six. Ten to twelve feet high. Blossoms in May. Each, 3 to 4 feet, 25c.

Spirea (Anthony Waterer), Red. This beautiful variety has the same habits as its parent, the Bumalda. It blooms about the close of June, continuing throughout the entire season. A striking and attractive shrub. Each, 15 to 18 inches, 25c; \$2.00 per 12.

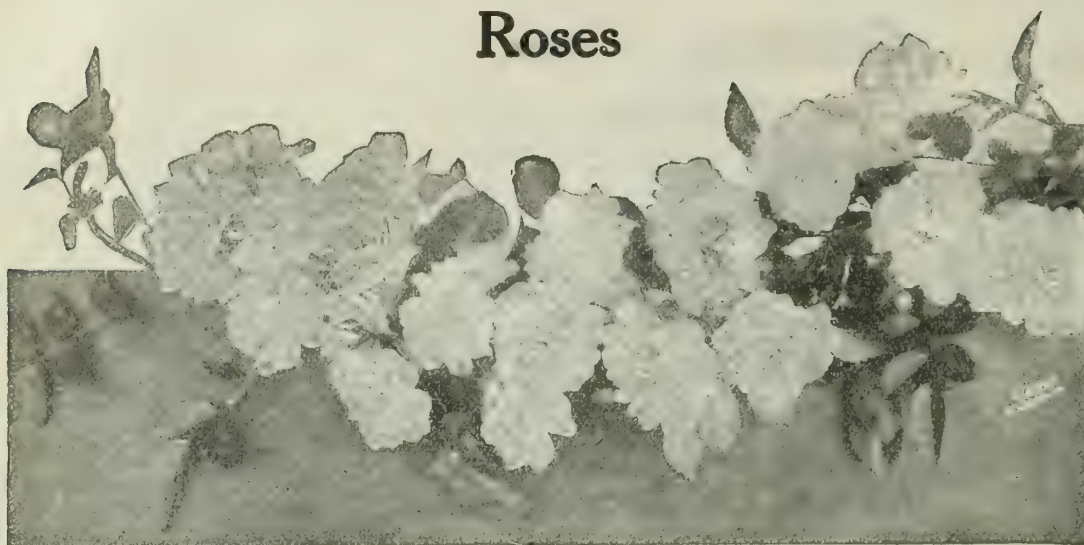
Spirea (Van Houttei), White. Without doubt the grandest of all Spireas; beautiful at any season, but when in bloom is a complete fountain of white flowers, the foliage hardly showing. Perfectly hardy and an early bloomer. Each, 2 to 3 feet, 25c; \$2.00 per 12.

Weigelia Rosea. A beautiful shrub with rose colored flowers in May and June. Each, 25c.



Wistaria.

Roses



GIANT IRONCLAD ROSE COLLECTION.

Selected for our customers who want roses that will stand the severest climate and give satisfactory results and blossoms everywhere.

Think of having roses blossoming at your very door, sending their fragrance to meet you the moment you cross the threshold, yielding enough flowers to fill every room in the house with exquisite scent and loveliness from June until October! Would not such a garden appeal to you? You can have it for very little money.

We carry none but the very hardiest varieties and the finest and freest bloomers. Many varieties offered by eastern catalogues are too tender. Hot-house roses are worthless for outdoor planting—ours are field-grown.

ROSE ROOTS—Our roses grown on their own roots, not grafted, are more easily transplanted and hardier.

How To Grow Roses.

GET GOOD HEALTHY PLANTS. Dormant plants, field-grown, are better than hot-house roses, which are tender and apt to be infested with insects, fungus, etc. You can depend upon our roses.

1. **WHEN TO PLANT.** Plant as early in the spring as you can after the frost has gone out. The month of April and first of May is about right.

2. **WILTED OR DRIED PLANTS.** If the plants come in a wilted condition soak them, roots and tops, in blood-warm water. This will do them good, even if not dried. Wet the roots well just as you plant them, so the earth will adhere. When the hole is half filled up pour in water, and then fill up with dirt, but pour no more water in. This keeps soil from baking.

3. **PRUNING.** By all means cut off nearly all the tops, leaving on four to six inches. Don't fail to cut tops off before planting; not after. This is one of the most important things in planting roses.

4. **ROSES ON OWN ROOTS.** Don't fail to buy roses on own roots. On budded roses sprouts from roots are not true to name. Our Roses are on Own Roots.

5. **ROSES AND SUNSHINE.** They need all they can get. Do not like shade or wet soil.

6. **IN THE SPRINGTIME** cut off all decayed or injured parts.

7. **PREPARING ROSES FOR WINTER.** There is nothing more important in rose culture than caring for them in the winter. There are a number of methods:

FIRST. Lay the plants down and cover up with loose soil, and when frozen cover with mulching. Uncover in the spring. This is a good method.

SECOND. Cut all bush roses to the ground, burn up the brush and cover up the stubs with soil and mulching; uncover in the spring.

Hybrid Perpetuals.

Originated by crossing tea roses with hardy kinds. Bush form; erect growth; hardy and bloom from June till frost.

ANNA DE DIESBACH. Brilliant rose color, long pointed buds, perfectly formed blossoms. A vigorous grower and persistent bloomer.

COQUETTE DE ALPS. White, tinged with pale rose; hardy; blooms every day.

GEN. JACQUEMINOT. Vivid crimson; the very best rose and hardiest.

CLIO. The flowers of this rose are simply perfection in form, beautiful at all stages of development; color delicate satin blush.

PAUL NEYRON. Deep rose, immense size, strong grower; very hardy.

GENERAL WASHINGTON. Perfectly double, soft scarlet, large and fine.

LA REINE. Clear rosy pink.

MARSHALL P. WILDER. Pink carmine, fine bloomer; flower large.

MRS. JOHN LAING. A beauty in clear, bright shining pink. Full blooms on long stiff stems.

MAGNA CHARTA. Splendid sort; bright, clear pink, sweet-scented.

JOHN HOPPER. Bright rose pink, large, full; very hardy.

PRICES ON ROSES:

Hybrid Perpetual	1 \$0.30	3 \$0.75	6 \$1.25	12 \$2.25
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Hardy Climbing Roses.

Desirable for covering trellises, walls or porches, as they succeed under any circumstances, blooming in clusters of medium sized flowers profusely throughout the season.

ANNA MARIE. Rosy pink, changing to blush.

BALTIMORE BELLE. Very double, blush white.

DAWSON. Flowers very double; bright carmine.

EMPRESS OF CHINA. Bright pink flowers, practically ever-blooming.

MULTIFLORA JAPONICA. Blooms in clusters of pure white, perfectly hardy, and a very rapid grower.

PRAIRIE QUEEN. Always popular, bright rosy red.

RUBY QUEEN. Deep ruby red, with shiny leathery foliage.

SEVEN SISTERS. Crimson, changing all shades, to white. Each, strong plants, 35c; \$3.50 per 12.

Rambler Roses.

No class of roses has come into popular favor so rapidly as these. Of hardy, sturdy nature, a vigorous and quick grower, producing the lovely flowers in truly wonderful profusion. The flowers are borne in immense clusters, each one forming a nice bouquet in itself. Hardy everywhere.

CRIMSON RAMBLER. It is a vigorous grower, making shoots ten to twenty feet high in a single season. Flowers glowing crimson and produced in immense panicles, covering the plant from top to bottom. The blooms remain a long time without losing their brightness. This rose improves upon acquaintance; the better it is known the more popular it becomes. Each, 40c; 2 for 75c.

Baby Rambler.

The ever-blooming Dwarf Crimson Rambler. Blooms Out-of-Doors Every Day from June till Frost. • Every Day Under Glass. Hardier even than the famous Crimson Rambler.

GRANDEST BEDDING ROSE KNOWN. Plant half a dozen in a small bed 15 to 18 inches apart and see them bloom.

No rose in existence equals it in blooming quality. Plants grow only from twenty-four to thirty inches.

BABY RAMBLER IS A SUPERB ROSE FOR POT CULTURE. As a bedding variety none possess more points in genuine merit than Baby Rambler. A single plant, grown in a pot, is a marvel in neatness. Will thrive and bloom with ordinary treatment from one years end to another. Indeed, they will never be without flowers if kept in a growing condition. As a pot plant for winter blooming it has no equal. It stands alone and will find a place everywhere.

The Baby Rambler Rose never gets tired. Works at blooming day and night and every day in the year.

PRICES: Largest size, 50c each; 2 for 90c; 6 for \$2.25.

Ornamental Trees

Extra Select Stock.

Hardy trees and shrubs can now be obtained at moderate cost that will stand the extremes of temperature and soil of nearly all sections. Judicious selection will obtain deciduous and evergreen trees, shrubs, vines, etc., that make beautiful specimens throughout the entire year.

Nursery-grown trees are pre-eminently superior and worth more than trees dug from the woods. In the nursery trees are grown with the idea of getting a perfect shape with fully developed root systems. They are carefully pruned and cultivated. In the forest it is impossible to get trees as smooth and straight with the necessary fibrous roots.

Elm. Everyone is familiar with the elm. Its hardihood, its fine spreading branches, and, above all, its durability, make it the most desirable of shade trees. The grand and venerable old elm, under whose protecting shade Washington took command of his Continental army, is still standing at Cambridge. We offer it in sizes to suit everyone. Nine to ten feet, 40c; eight to nine feet, 35c; seven to eight feet, 30c; six to seven feet, 25c.

Box Elder. Very smooth, thrifty tree. A rapid growing shade tree. Hardy everywhere. Eight to nine feet, 40c; seven to eight feet, 30c; six to seven feet, 20c.

Soft Maple. One of the handsomest of all shade trees, regular in outline, with beautiful leaves. Hardy and rapid in growth. We offer choice, smooth trees, well suited to lawn, street or park planting. Ten to twelve feet, 60c; nine to ten feet, 40c; eight to nine feet, 25c; seven to eight feet, 20c; six to seven feet, 15c.

Catalpa Speciosa. Do not confuse this with the tender Catalpa Bignonioides. Catalpa Speciosa is hardy and superior in every way. An erect, rapid growing tree, with broad, dark green leaves and beautiful perfumed blossoms. Easy to transplant. Never suffers from borers or insect enemies. Ten to twelve feet, 50c; nine to ten feet, 40c; eight to nine feet, 35c; seven to eight feet, 20c.

Linden. A rapid growing, beautiful tree, with rich green foliage and fragrant flowers. Symmetrical in growth. Very choice. Eight to nine feet, 40c; seven to eight feet, 30c.

Sycamore. A fine tree with broad, spreading top and deep green foliage. Eight to ten feet, 40c.

White Birch. A beautiful, graceful tree with slender branches, drooping slightly at the tips. The white bark contrasts pleasingly with the green leaves. One of the most striking, richest looking of all shade trees. Six to seven feet, 40c.

Mt. Ash. Seven to eight feet, 40c; six to seven feet, 30c.

Ash. Seven to eight feet, 30c; six to seven feet, 20c.

Evergreens (Transplanted)

We want to call your attention to the fact that we have a very complete stock of hardy nursery-grown evergreens, and shall be glad to make quotations if you will send list of requirements. All orders are dug same day as shipped, and great care is used to keep roots from exposure.

FOREST TREE SEEDLINGS BY THE MILLION.

All our seedlings are nursery-grown, hardy, healthy and stocky plants, with good root system. They will give the very best results everywhere. Do not compare our prices for our select seedlings with those quoted in some catalogues.

We furnish 50 at the 100 rate; 500 at 1,000 rate; 5,000 at 10,000 rate.

Ash, White	8-12 inches	\$0.65 per 100;	\$ 4.50 per 1,000;	\$ 35.00 per 10,000
Ash, White	12-18 inches	.90 per 100;	7.00 per 1,000;	50.00 per 10,000
Ash, White	18-24 inches	1.20 per 100;	10.00 per 1,000;	
Boxelder	12-18 inches	1.00 per 100;	7.50 per 1,000;	58.00 per 10,000
Boxelder	18-24 inches	1.25 per 100;	10.00 per 1,000;	75.00 per 10,000
Catalpa Speciosa	4-8 inches	.50 per 100;	3.50 per 1,000;	25.00 per 10,000
Catalpa Speciosa	8-12 inches	.75 per 100;	5.00 per 1,000;	40.00 per 10,000
Catalpa Speciosa	12-18 inches	1.25 per 100;	10.00 per 1,000;	75.00 per 10,000
Elm	12-18 inches	.75 per 100;	5.50 per 1,000;	40.00 per 10,000
Elm	18-24 inches	1.00 per 100;	7.50 per 1,000;	50.00 per 10,000
Locust, Black	8-12 inches	.55 per 100;	3.75 per 1,000;	25.00 per 10,000
Locust, Black	12-18 inches	.75 per 100;	5.00 per 1,000;	35.00 per 10,000
Locust, Black	18-24 inches	.85 per 100;	6.00 per 1,000;	45.00 per 10,000
Maple, Soft	12-18 inches	1.00 per 100;	7.50 per 1,000;	58.00 per 10,000
Maple, Soft	18-24 inches	1.25 per 100;	10.00 per 1,000;	75.00 per 10,000
Mulberry, Russian	8-12 inches	.55 per 100;	3.75 per 1,000;	25.00 per 10,000
Mulberry, Russian	12-18 inches	.70 per 100;	5.00 per 1,000;	37.50 per 10,000
Mulberry, Russian	18-24 inches	.90 per 100;	7.00 per 1,000;	47.50 per 10,000
Cottonwood	8-12 inches	.45 per 100;	3.50 per 1,000;	25.00 per 10,000
Cottonwood	12-18 inches	.60 per 100;	4.50 per 1,000;	35.00 per 10,000
Cottonwood	18-24 inches	.70 per 100;	5.50 per 1,000;	42.50 per 10,000
Willow, Diamond	12-18 inches	.60 per 100;	4.50 per 1,000;	35.00 per 10,000
Willow, Diamond	18-24 inches	.70 per 100;	5.50 per 1,000;	42.50 per 10,000
Walnut, Black	8-12 inches	1.00 per 100;	9.00 per 1,000;	75.00 per 10,000
Walnut, Black	12-18 inches	1.50 per 100;	12.50 per 1,000;	100.00 per 10,000
Walnut, Black	18-24 inches	2.00 per 100;	15.00 per 1,000;	125.00 per 10,000
Butternut	12-18 inches	2.00 per 100;	15.00 per 1,000;	125.00 per 10,000

We have a very large quantity of Norway and Carolina Poplars, Russian Golden and Laurel Leaf Willows. These are especially adapted for Prairie planting. Their hardiness and quick growth make them indispensable for windbreaks. For our special low prices write for prices.

Seedlings By Mail. We Pay Postage.

White Ash	8-12 inches	\$2.89 per 100;	\$5.50 per 1,000
Black Locust	8-12 inches	.65 per 100;	4.50 per 1,000
Catalpa Speciosa	4-8 inches	.60 per 100;	4.25 per 1,000
Catalpa Speciosa	8-12 inches	.85 per 100;	5.75 per 1,000
Cottonwood	8-12 inches	.65 per 100;	4.25 per 1,000
Russian Mulberry	8-12 inches	.65 per 100;	4.50 per 1,000

OUR NURSERY LIST IN THIS CATALOGUE IS GREATLY ABRIDGED FOR WANT OF SPACE, BUT COVERS IN A GENERAL WAY MOST ALL THE BEST AND MOST PRACTICAL VARIETIES. IF YOU DO NOT FIND WHAT YOU WANT WRITE FOR OUR FULL AND COMPLETE NURSERY CATALOGUE, AND IT WILL BE MAILED FREE TO YOU.

Address RATEKIN NURSERY CO., Shenandoah, Iowa.

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GROWN THE RATEKIN WAY

1,200 Acres
in Nursery Stock

DIRECT FROM GROWER TO PLANTER

We want to call special attention to the Nursery Department of our catalog. It is somewhat abridged, but if there is anything in the nursery line you need or want, not found in it, write for our complete illustrated Nursery Catalog. We can supply any tree, plant or shrub there is grown, and at a much lower and cheaper price than they can be obtained from tree agents and peddlers, also a very superior grade and quality of stock.

Our catalog is our only salesman. Planters of Nursery Stock everywhere are coming to realize that the best method of getting trees and plants is to send their orders directly to the nurserymen. In this way they get **BETTER TREES AND SAVE HALF THEIR MONEY**, for if you buy of tree agents or peddlers more than half the money you pay them goes to the agent himself, for wages, commissions, and expenses. This you save by buying direct from us, the grower and producer. If you wish to find the agent who sold to you, you cannot do so, but if you buy from us you can always find and reach us at the expense of a two cent stamp.

Shenandoah is situated in Southwestern Iowa, the garden spot of the West. Soil, climate and all conditions are the most favorable to the growing of nursery stock, producing that solid, firm texture of the wood, deep penetrating roots, and an abundance of strong fibrous roots, so necessary to the successful transplanting and future value of the trees.

Our stock is grown only for the planter. We do not job or wholesale out quantities, neither do we procure our stock from the market, buy inferior grades or cheap stock. We cannot afford to do this for the reason that the price of a tree is the smallest part of its cost by the time it comes into bearing. We have a reputation to uphold, and we do not intend to ruin our business by the handling of inferior grades. Our stock is all improved upon by our special method of propagation and cultivation known as "THE RATEKIN WAY." This tends to further develop both roots and body, enabling all stock to resist drought and unfavorable conditions to a remarkable degree.

EVERY SHIPMENT sent out by us IS ACCOMPANIED BY A CERTIFICATE OF INSPECTION OF THE STATE ENTOMOLOGIST OF IOWA.

We use the greatest care possible to have all stock true to name, and should any prove not true, we stand ready to replace it free of charge, or to refund the purchase money. **GOOD STOCK, TRUE TO NAME, SOLD DIRECT TO PLANTER AT REASONABLE PRICES, IS OUR MOTTO**, and we want to assure one and all that if favored with your orders, it matters not how large or small they may be, you can rely upon getting only first class stock, and that your orders will be handled and packed in the best possible manner for shipment.

RATEKIN PAYS THE FREIGHT OR EXPRESS anywhere in the United States on all orders for Fruit and Ornamental Trees amounting to \$10.00 or over, and on all orders for Shrubs, Climbing Vines, Roses, etc., amounting to \$5.00 or more.

Read our special freight prepayment offer in our Nursery Catalog.

Address all correspondence, orders and inquiries to

THE RATEKIN NURSERY COMPANY

Lock Box No. 126, SHENANDOAH, IOWA



Plant Ratekin's Pure-Bred Seed Corn in your field, plant Fruit Trees in your orchard; Vines and Roses under your window, and Flowers in your garden. Also beautify your home place by sowing some of our choice Lawn Mixtures.

Our Last Word

Pen, Ink and Paper are not always at hand, but we want to hear from and help our customers, both old and new, in every possible way, and have left this page for you to "WRITE US A LETTER." Tell us what you want, and we will gladly help you, if we can.

Sincerely yours,

RATEKIN'S SEED HOUSE.

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12 Apple Trees
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Your choice of
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Six at dozen rate.



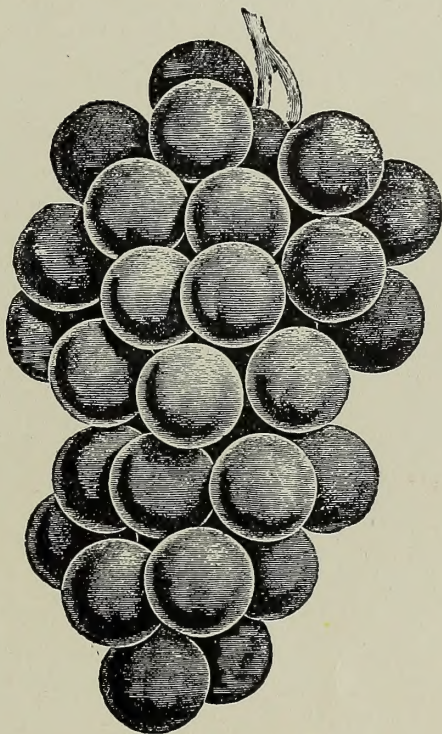
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51 Small Fruits sent you by express for
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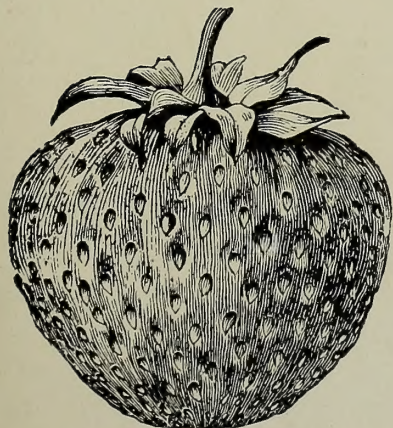
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- 1 Buffalo Berry
- 6 Strawberry Raspberry
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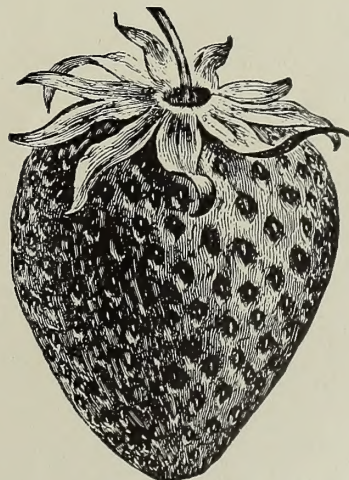
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